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HISTORIC AYRSHIRE,

BEING A COLLECTION OF HISTORICAL WORKS TREATING OF THE COUNTY OF AYR,

EDITED, AND ANNOTATED WHERE NECESSARY,

BY

WILLIAM ROBERTSON,

Author of "Historic Tales and Legends of Ayrshire," "The Kings of Carrick," "The Lords of Cunningham," etc.

THOMSON BROTHERS, 74 GEORGE STREET, EDINBURGH.

1891.

PREFACE.

THE aim of the editor, in the work of which this is the first volume, has been to gather together within a compass that will make them specially useful for reference, the various leading Historical books that deal with the shire of Ayr.

With this object in view, he has extracted from the valuable collection of Pitcairn, the Ayrshire Trials of the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries, and though he has to some extent discarded the old Scottish vernacular, he has attempted faithfully to make the reproduction as complete as is consistent with the understanding of the diction by the ordinary reader. He has also reproduced Timothy Pont's "Cuninghame Topographised" (about 1608); Abercrummie's Account of Carrick in 1696; Colonel Fullarton's "General View of the Agriculture of the County of Ayr, 1793;" and "Minutes of Improvements on Ayrshire Estates," 1777.

Until now the student of Ayrshire History has been compelled to search upwards of twenty separate volumes to find the statistical accounts of the various parishes contributed to the work undertaken by Sir John Sinclair in the close of last century; but when the second volume of "Historic Ayrshire" is complete, the investigator will not only have these accounts within easy compass, but, in addition, the Ayrshire Section of Chalmers' "Caledonia," and the more interesting and valuable portions of the New Statistical Account of 1838. Eight of the parishes will be found at the close of Vol. I.

The second volume will complete the record of the Parishes from the three sources mentioned; and, should circumstances permit, the editor will endeavour to deal, in a third essay, with other historical data, and with different phases of the earlier social life of the county.

Only one hundred copies of "Historic Ayrshire" are offered for sale.

Ayr, 1891.

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ERRATUM.

Pages 86-90—For "Cuninghame Topographised" read "Carrick in 1696."

AYRSHIRE
CRIMINAL TRIALS

AND OTHER PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE THE

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICIARY IN SCOTLAND,

REPRODUCED FROM

PITCAIRN'S CRIMINAL TRIALS,

AND, WHERE NECESSARY,

ANNOTATED BY

WILLIAM ROBERTSON,

AUTHOR OF

"Historical Tales and Legends of Ayrshire," "The Kings of Carrick," "The Lords of Cunningham," &c.

AYR:
'ADVERTISER' OFFICE, 108 HIGH STREET.

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EARLY AYRSHIRE CRIMINAL TRIALS.

INTRODUCTORY.

IT was in the year 1829 that the first part of the "Criminal Trials and other Proceedings before the High Court of Justiciary in Scotland" first saw the light. The editor, Mr Robert Pitcairn, W.S., in the preface says that "the compilation of this work was projected for the purpose of giving publicity to the most important portions of the Ancient Records of the Supreme Criminal Tribunal of Scotland, and of placing beyond the reach of destruction the most interesting of the *Causes Celebre* of that Court; materials of great value alike to the historian and the lawyer, and possessing no ordinary attractions for almost every class of readers." "Many of the public records of Scotland," he adds, "during the minority of King James VI. are imperfect, and have perhaps been wilfully destroyed; for, besides the disturbed state of the country and other obvious causes, which might satisfactorily account for the loss of volumes of Registers, there is but too good reason to conjecture that portions of the National Records were, in some instances, purposely suppressed by one or other of the prevailing factions."

The high store which Mr Pitcairn sets by the Records is amply justified in the character of the Records themselves, and equally in the many purposes to which they have been put. To the national historian they have proved an inexhaustible mine of wealth. Stretching from 1488, in the reign of King James IV., to 1624, when King James VI. occupied the throne, they embrace the most notable and the most stirring years in the feudal history of Scotland; and they disinter from the past many varied scenes illustrative not only of the contendings and the jarrings of the great families of the realm, but of the ordinary life of the country side.

Certainly not the least important pages of the Criminal Trials are those which deal with the history of Ayrshire. Its sons of these days were the immediate inheritors of the warlike traditions of their forefathers. They were early trained to arms, to the excitement of the foray, to the heritage of the blood feud. They pricked their way by river's brink and hilly road from the farthest stretch of the broad lands of Carrick, the solitudes of the moorlands and the mosses of Kyle, and from the rude upland wilds amid which Cunningham marches with Renfrewshire, to carry on a series of conflicts whose tenacity and thoroughness were truthfully characteristic of the unswerving fidelity with which these men discharged themselves of their sympathies and their antipathies. There is no parish in all Ayrshire that has not a literature of its own, if some one were only found to tell its story.

Much of that story will be told in the records that follow. It will be a plain, unvarnished tale, bald with the legal phraseology of the summons, the indictment, the edict. If fancy choose to close up the gaps and recall the actors to the scene, and fill the foreground and the background of the picture with the

accessories that make the pictures "speaking," fancy may do it. What I have to do is to reproduce, as faithfully as I can, the contents of the "Criminal Trials" so far as these have to do with Ayrshire. Save where it is necessary, I shall leave the records to speak for themselves.

But two more remarks by way of introduction. The trials are given in chronological order. In some respects it would have been preferable to have traced the history of the leading families of the shire in unbroken sequence; but they are so interwoven with one another that this has been found to be impossible. I have also modernised the old Scotch of the originals so as to render these more intelligible to the ordinary reader.

With this brief introduction I proceed to my task.

A. D. 1488—JAMES IV.

REGULATIONS FOR THE DUE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

[One of the earliest public Acts of the first Parliament of King James IV. throws much valuable light on the energy and vigour recommended and enforced by the advisers of the young King, whose personal activity and zeal in the discharge of all the functions of the Royal office are well known and acknowledged. It is preceded by the following brief resolution —(Acta Parl. 1488 cap. 9), which, as is generally allowed, he fulfilled almost to the letter—'It is advised and concluded anent the forth-putting of justice through all the Realme that our Sovereign Lord SHALL RIDE IN PROPER PERSON about to all his Aieres (Courts of Justiciary), and that his JUSTICE shall pass with His Highness to minister justice as be thought expedient to him and his Council for the time.'

As the future proceedings refer to the discharge of the important duties entrusted to the Lords and Barons named, it has been considered necessary to lay before the reader the particulars which, as usual, are concisely stated.]

October 17.—'Against the stanching of theft, reset, and other enormities through all the realm, the Lords under-written has made faith and given their bodily oaths to our Sovereign Lord in this his Parliament, that they, and ilk ane of them, shall dilligently, with all care and business, search and seek where any sic trespassers are found and known within their bounds, and take them and justify them (execute them: put them to death after legal trial), or make them be rent to our Sovereign Lord to be justified. And they shall have power of our Sovereign Lord, under his white wax, to take and punish the said trespassers according to justice, and also to give them powers to cause other Lords within their bounds to make faith likewise, and to rise and assist them in the taking of the said trespassers—
The Lord Kennedy for Carrik.
The Schereff of Are for Are.
The Laird of Cragy for Kile.
The Lord of Montgummerry for Cunynghame.'

A.D. 1505—JUSTICIARY OF DUMFRIES.

WOUNDING (SLAUGHTER?) OF THE LAIRD OF CRAGANIS.

[John, Master of Montgomery (or of Eglintoun, as he is styled in the Peerages), was the second and then surviving son of Hugh, third Lord Montgomery, a distinguished nobleman, who had been a strenuous supporter of the Prince at the Field of Stirling, and for his services was afterwards created Earl of Eglingtoun. The crime for which the Master was here summoned was for the wounding of William Cunninghame of Craigends. The Master of Eglingtoun was killed on the streets of Edinburgh, April 28, 1520, in the memorable feud between James First, Earl of Arran, and Archibald, sixth Earl of Angus, best known by the *sobriquet* of 'Cleanse the Causeway.' The authority for the nature of the crime with which the Master was charged is the following brief notice from Sir James Balfour's treatise—'*De jure Prælationis Nobilium Scotiæ.*' ITEM.—I find that Johne, Master of Montgomerie, is summoned to underlie the law and censure of treason for the Wounding of William Cuninghame of Craiganis.]

January 20, 1505.—The Master of Montgomery failed to appear, and the diet against him was continued.

JUSTICIARY OF AYR, A.D. 1508.

Andrew, Lord Gray, presiding.

FEU'D BETWEEN THE MURES AND CUNYNGHAMES.

November 3.—Patrick Boyde, brother to the Laird of Rowallan, Neil Smith, in Gardrum, and twenty-five others, convicted of art and part of convocation of the lieges against the Act of Parliament, coming to the Kirk of Stewartoun in company with John Mure of Rowallan, for the office of Parish Clerk of the same Kirk against



Robert Cunynghame of Cunynghamhede and his servants, in the year 1508.—The Laird of Rowallan and Andrew Arnot of Lochrig became sureties to satisfy parties, as the Lords should declare their pleasure.

OPPRESSING THE YOUNG LAIRD OF BUSBY, &C.

James Mur, brother of the Laird of Rowalloun, convicted of art and part of the forethought felony and oppression done to John Mowat, junior, Laird of Busby, and Andrew Stevenstoune, in the town of Stewartoun, in company with the Laird of Rowalloun. Fined V£.—The Laird of Rowalloun surety to the King and party.

CONVOCATION.—OPPRESSING LADY CUNYNGHAMHEAD, &C.

Robert Cunyngham of Cunynhamhede, convicted of art and part of convocation of the lieges against the Act of Parliament, coming to the Kirk of Stewartoun in convocation against John Mur of Rowallane and his men, for the office of Parish Clerk of the said Kirke, in the year 1508. *Item.*—Of art and part of the oppression done to Elizabeth Rosse, Lady Cunynghamhede, in occupying and manuring her third part of the lands of Cunynghamhede and Bonnalay, and of thereby breaking the King's Protection (*i.e.* 'safeguard') upon her, in the year 1503. *Item.*—Of art and part of the oppression done to the Abbot and Convent of the Monastery of Kilwynning, and to Hew, Earl of Eglintoun, their tenant, in the 'spuilzie' of the Teind-sheaves of the lands of Myddletoun, in the parish of Perstoune, and of breaking the 'safeguard' of our Sovereign Lord the King upon the said Earl of Eglinton, in the year 1508.

CONVOCATION AGAINST THE LAIRD OF ROWALLAN.

Thomas Wallace, in Clonsche, convicted of art and part of convocation of the liegis against John Mur of Rowallan and his men, &c. Fined according to the will of the Lords.—Robert Cunyngham of Cunynghamhede surety to the King and party.

OPPRESSING LADY CREECHDOW, SPUILZIE, &C.

November 5.—John Schaw of Haly, William Schaw, dwelling with him, and eight others were permitted to compound for art and part of the oppression done to Margaret Montgumry, Lady Creechdow, coming to her Place about the feast of mid-summer, casting her goods furth of her house, and for the spuilzie of sundry of her goods, at the same time striking her servants, and for breaking of our Sovereign Lord the King's 'safeguard.' *Item.*—Of oppression done to the said Margaret in ejecting her furth of her house and Place of Garlauche, casting down a stack of hay and destroying it, and also casting down a stack of bear (a kind of barley) containing seventy threaves (a threave generally consisted of twenty-four sheaves), and thereby damaging the grain. *Item.*—Of shutting up her goods, viz., sixty-five 'soumes' (see note) forth of her said third part, shutting them up without 'penning them in a pen-fold.' *Item.*—Of breaking his bond of caution to keep the peace towards the said Margaret, by casting a stone out of the window and breaking the said Margaret's head and felling her. *Item.*—For common oppression of the King's lieges.—David Craufurde of Kerse surety to satisfy the party.

[NOTE.—A soume of grass seems to have been various in different parts of the country, *e.g.*, as much as one cow, or five (sometimes eight or ten) sheep can pasture.]

SLAUGHTER.

John Schaw of Kerise produced a Remission for art and part of Slaughter of John Boyde with a stone.—David Craufurd of Kerse surety to satisfy parties.

THROWING DOWN THE PLACE OF BURNFOOT—HAMESUCKEN, &C.

John Schaw of Kerise admitted to compound for art and part of the forethought felony done to Duncan Fergussoune, young Laird of Kilkerrane, in coming to his place of Burnefute, and throwing down and breaking into the houses of the said Place; and for (forcibly) keeping the lands of Burnefute waste for the space of one year; *Item*, for the forethought felony done to Andrew MaKnacht, and for 'hamsukken' (see Note) and coming to his Place and stabbit his . . . . . (obliterated in Record) with whingers and swords; *Item*, for the forethought felony and oppression done to John Boyde (See preceding case), wishing to slay him at the time of the Slaughter of —— M'Ilhenze.—David Craufurde of Kerise surety to satisfy parties.

[*Note.*—Hamesucken—Serious assault committed upon a person in his own house.]

HINDERING THE SITTING OF THE BAILIE COURT OF CARRICK.

David Craufurde of Kerse, David C. younger, John Craufurde, 'Proctour,' Thomas Galbraith, David Campbell of Clovingall, Peter Rankine of Schelde, William his Son, Albert Carthkert, Allan Carthker (Cathcart?) of Drumriewane, Esplane Craufurde, and James Barbour, came

in the King's will for art and part of Convocation of the lieges, coming to the Court of the Bailliary of Carrik, on occasion whereof the Bailie [Hew Earl of Eglintoune), on account of the 'inconventies' which might arise by serving the Brieve of the Laird of Kilhenzie; resumed the said Brieve; and thereby, for impeding the said Bailie from holding his Court.—John Schaw of Kerse surety to satisfy parties and the King. (David Crawfurde of Kerse was amerciated £5, and each of the others 40s.

OPPRESSION—HAMESUCKEN—CASTING A BOY INTO THE FIRE.

November 6.—Cuthbert Robisoune in Auchintebir, convicted of art and part of the Oppression done to Arthur Farnlie at his own house, striking him, and casting his son in the fire.—Sir David Kenydy surety to the King and party. (He was fined five merks.)

SPUILZIE—OPPRESSING THE OLD LADY HOME, &c.

November 10.—Hew Earl of Eglintoun produced a Remission for art and part of the 'Spuilzie' of twelve horses, boots, spurs, swords, and other goods from Arthur Boyde and other servants of the old Lady of Home, at the time of the wounding of the said Arthur; *Item*, for art and part of the Convocation of the lieges to the number of sixty persons, and the Oppression done to the old Lady of Home in Spuilzie of twenty-four cows forth of Galloway; *Item*, for the Oppression done to the said Arthur, coming upon him and hurting him, and taking him to the Place of Estwode, and detaining him therein in prison. The Earl became surety to satisfy the parties.

SPUILZIE.

November 11.—John Hammyltoune in Bargany produced a Remission for art and part of the spuilzie of corn, bear, pots, and pans, from men dwelling in Cregforguse (Carrick-Fergus?); *Item*, for art and part of the Spuilzie of four horses, eight cows, and four oxen from John Thomsoune, forth of his lands of Knockminschoch.—Alexander Kenydy, young Laird of Bargany, became surety to satisfy the parties.

SLAUGHTER.

EDINBURGH, Nov. 24 (Sabbath), 1509.—Hugh Wallace.—Cuthbert, Earl of Glencarne, often called to enter Hugh Wallace to underly the law for art and part of the Slaughter of the deceased George Hammyetoune, under the pain of eighty pounds; and, not compearing, was amerciated in the said sum, the said Hugh denounced at the horne, and all his goods escheated.

Hugh Lindesay, Andrew Hart, Alexander Robertson, Robert Wright, and Robert Bar. The Laird of Dunrod amerciated in the sums of two hundred merks and eighty pounds respectively for the non-appearance of these persons for the same Slaughter. Hugh, Earl of Eglintoun, was also amerciated in four sums of eighty pounds each for non-appearance of Alexander Dalglesche, John Craumond, John Lekpr · ł and Paul Blakfurd. And Alexander Lindesay younger of Corsbasket, in eighty pounds: or non-appearance of David Andersoune, *alias* Davidsoune, for the said Slaughter. All the above persons were denounced rebels and put to the horn, and all their goods escheated.

[*Note.*—The outlaws compounded for their offence, and the sentence of outlawry was recalled.]

SLAUGHTER OF SIR WILLIAM COLVILLE OF OCHILTREE, KNIGHT.

JEDWORTHE, Nov. 20, 1510.—George Haliburton.—Mark Ker of Dolphinstoun often called to enter the said George to underly the law, for art and pare of the Slaughter of Sir William Colvile of Uchiltree (Knight), and Richard Ruthirfurde, under the pain of 100 merks; and, not compearing, was amerciated in the said sum. The said George denounced at the horn, and his goods escheated to the King.

JUSTICIARY OF AYR, 1511.

TREASONABLY TAKING THE CASTLE OF LOCHDOUN, &c.

October 30, 1511.—William Craufurde, son of William Craufurde of Lefnorys, admitted to compound for art and part of the treasonable taking of the King's Castle of Lochdoun from Sir David Kennidy, Knight, captain thereof, and 'Hereschip' (plundering) and Oppression done to the said David, in hereschip of the said castle; and for resetting, supplying, and intercommuning with the King's rebels, being at the horn, viz.—David Crawfurde, of Kerse; John Shaw, of Keris; and the Crechtounis. The Laird of Gaitgirth became surety to satisfy the parties.

Alan Cathcart of Clowlynan. John Craufurde of Drongan, and five others (persons of no note), were admitted to compound for the treasonable taking of the Castle of Lochdoune as above. Alexander Kennydy, young laird of Bargany, surety, &c.

CRUEL OPPRESSION, STOUTHRIEF, &c.

November 4.—Hew, Earl of Eglintoune, Thomas Montgumery in Kilbride, John Montfoide, younger of that ilk, and seven others,



admitted to compound for art and part of convocation of the lieges, and for art and part of the forethought felony and oppression done to John Scot, burgess of Irvin; and of stouthrief (theft) of pots and pans, plates, and pewter vessels, from the said John, furth of his house, extending to (to the value of) twenty pounds; item, for the forethought felony and oppression done to the said John and his wife, coming to his house and cruelly striking his wife with bauche straikis (back strokes) at the time of the stouthrief of the said goods; item, for forethought felony and oppression done to the said John, taking him into the Tolbooth of Irvin, and conducting him to the lodging of the said Laird (of Montfoide?), and detaining him there for the space of six hours against his will; and then conducting him to the said Tolbooth as a thief, and putting the said John in the stocks and incarcerating him therein; and for the oppression done to the said John's wife at the said Tolbooth, taring her hair, cruelly striking her, and pulling out her hair in great quantities. The said Earl and the Laird of Montfoide became sureties, conjunctly and severally, renouncing the benefit of division, to satisfy the parties.

[*Note.*—The total sum exacted was eight hundred and twenty-six pounds, six shillings and eightpence.]

SLAUGHTER OF THE YOUNG LAIRD OF ATTIQUANE.

EDINBURGH, April 9 (Sabbath), 1513.—Thos. Kennedy of Bargany; Alexander and John, his sons; Rolland, his brother; Thomas Fergussoune, brother of the Laird of Kilkerane; John Colvile, son of William, and six others, were ordained to be denounced rebels and all their moveables to be escheated, for their not entering to underly the law, for art and part of the cruel slaughter of George Kennedy, son and heir apparent of George Kennedy of Attiquane. Execution of horning delayed till Friday next, with consent of George Kennedy of Attyquene. David, Earl of Cassillis, became surety.

April 20.—David Craufurde of Kerse, and Thomas Corry of Kelwode, amerciated a hundred pounds for not entering the Laird of Bargany, who was put to the horne along with the others.

ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE TRIALS WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE REIGN OF KING JAMES IV.

October 19, 1488.—Precept of remission to Hughoune Wallace of Smethistoune, for art and part of the reset of certain goods out of the Barony of Erilstoune, upon Walter and Mychel Makmyllane, &c., unto the day of our soverane lord's proclamation made at Lanark; that is to say, the twenty-ninth day of August preceding the date thereof.

October 19.—Remission to Hughoune Wallace, brother to John Wallace of Cragy, in the same terms and on the same day.

January 27, 1491.—Remission to John Tempiltoune for the theftuous outputting of the goods of the deceased George Campbell of Lowdoune, the Scheref of Are, the time he was stewart to the said scheref; and specially the time that the said scheref was sick, and for all crime, action, and accusation that may be imputed, &c.

April 6, 1495,—Remission to Cuthbert Gordoune for the forethought felony done by him upon Duncan Makadam in the burgh of Ayr, the time of the Justiciary (Court) thereof, &c., unto the sixteenth day of November, 1493, (At Kirkcudbright).

March 13, 1499.—Remission to Cuthbert Lord Kilmaurs and twenty other persons for art and part of the forethought felony done by them upon Gilbert Dunlop of Hapland, and the violent hurting of Downald Robisoune, coming from the King's host (or army), and for all other actions, &c., done and committed the time they took the Tolbooth of Irvin; and all action and coming thereupon, that day except.

August 17, 1500.—A letter of gift to Adam Barde, lockmanne (hangman) of the gift of two merks' worth of land, lying next Drongane, within the scherefdome of Are, for all the days of his life; for his service of lockmanschip to be done as use and custom is in times byegone, with all profits pertaining thereto.

January 4, 1506.—A Remit made to Hew Lord Montgomery, John his brother, John Montfoid, Robert Russale, Walter Lyne and Edward Maxwell, for all action and crime that may be imputed to them of the reset, and supply, and intercommuning with the said Rebels, of any time byegone.

January 4. 1506.—Letter of Remit made to Archibald Erle Ergile, Colyne Maister of Ergile, and thirty one other persons, their servants, for the reset, intercommuning and supply given to the said Maister of Montgomery, George Railstoune, and James Striveling, the King's Rebels foresaid.

January 3, 1507.—Letter of Licence made to Archibald Erle of Ergile, and Hew Lord Montgommerie to intercommune and give reset, supply and fortify with meat and drink, George Railstoun and James Striveling, being at the King's

horne for the hurting of William Cunyngham, Crownar of Renfrew, in the execution of his office; and also with John, Master of Montgumry, son and apparent heir to the said Hew, till the next feast of Palm Sunday.

February 8, 1507.—Respite made to Johne Kennedy of Blarequhan, Knight, Adame Rede of Starquhite, and Maister Uchtred Adumale, to pass in their Pilgramage to Saint Thomas of Canterbury (the Shrine of St. Thomas a Becket) in Ingland, and Sanct Johne of Ameas, in France: from their passing furth of this realme till they return again to the same, and eleven days thereafter.

November 3, 1508.—Remission to John Kennedy, son of John Lord Kennedy for the Stouthrief (theft) of a horse from Fergus Fergussone; and for the Stouthrief of another horse from the Countess of Erole, his mother: and for forethought felony done to Duncan Kennedy: and for Resetting Sir William Colvile of Ochiltre, Knight, and other Rebels at the horn, &c., (at Are).

November 4, 1508.—Remission to Thomas Kennedy of Bargany, for art and part of the Stouthrief of eight oxen from Jonnet Lokkert, relict of Henry Kennedy, &c., (at Are).

November 1, 1511.—Precept of Remission to Cuthbert, Earl of Glencarne, and five others, for art and part of the Slaughter of Alexander Makfarly, in Bute, &c., (at Are).

EOIDIE.—Precept of Remission to William Cunynghame, Master of Glencarne, and twenty-nine others, for resetting and intercommuning with the King's Rebels (at Are).

JAMES V.

It is an unfortunate circumstance that the regular series of the Books of Adjournal, does not commence till the 18th day of November, 1524, in the twelfth year in the Reign of King James V: for unquestionably a variety of very important Trials must have taken place during his minority. No doubt the public business of the country received a fatal shock from the disastrous consequences of Flodden-Field, and it would be long ere matters became settled after that unhappy day when so many of the Nobility, and the flower of the principal families of Scotland, fell along with their King

SLAUGHTER OF THE LAIRD OF LOCHLAND.

June 13, 1525.—GILBERT, EARL OF CASSILLIS, David Hynde, James Mure, in Ballochtoyll, Gilbert Kennedy, the Provost's son, and John Montgomery in Balsagart, were acquitted by an Assize, of the cruel Slaughter of Martin Kennedy of Lochland.

The Earl of Argyle presided at all the diets of this case, wherein almost every KENNEDY of consequence was called as art and part: together with a very long catalogue of the usual allies and followers of the house of Cassillis: such as Robert Grahame of Knockdoliane, Thomas Corry of Keldwood, John Mure of Auchendrane, Bartholomew Craufurde of Kerse, David and Duncan his brothers, &c., for all of whom the Earl of Cassillis became surety, that they should appear and answer at the bar for that crime, and also for the Slaughter of Gilbert Makilwraithe. The Earl of Cassillis afterwards compounded with the King for the *unlaws* in which his followers were liable, which must have amounted to a very large sum.

The original Warrant (the property of the High Court of Justiciary) is still preserved and is given here as a specimen of such documents:—

REX,

JUSTICE CLERK, wit ye our well beloved cousin, and Councillor, Gilbert, Erle of Cassillis, has compounded with us for all unlaws in the which he was adjudged for non-entry of his brother and all others, his friends and servants, before our Justices, or their deputes, in the Towbuth of Edinburghe, whatsoever days to have underlane our laws for slaughters and crimes whereof they were accused, contained in our Adjournal, unto the day of the date hereof; and has received from him payment for the same at the making hereof, and Discharges him of all the said unlaws by these presents forever. It is our will therefore, and We charge you that incontinent these our letters seen, ye draw all the said unlaws furth of our said Adjournal Books, and discharge the same, ye accept these our letters for your Warrant. Subscribed with our hand at Edinburghe, the eighteenth day of June, the year of God, one thousand five hundred and twenty-six years, and of our reign the thirteenth year.

JAMES R.

SLAUGHTER OF THE LAIRD OF AUCHINHARVY.

August 1, 1526.—HUGH, EARL OF EGLINTOUNE, Archibald Montgomery, his grandson and heir apparent; Mr William, his son; and James, his brother, find caution (Mr John Campbell of Lundy) to underly the law at the next Justiciare of Air, for art and part of the slaughter of Edward Cunynghame of Auchinharvy.

August 4.—Thomas Craufurd, heir of Auchnamys; James Monfode, heir of the Laird of Monfode; John Frisell of Knock; John, his son; and twelve others, procure the Earl for their cautioner, that they should appear and answer for the said crime.

SLAUGHTER OF THE EARL OF CASSILLIS.

October 5 (Sabbath), 1527.—HUGH CAMPBELL OF LOWDOUNE, Sheriff of Air. James, Earl of Arran, was amerciated a hundred pounds for not entering the Sheriff of Air to underly the law for the cruel slaughter of Gilbert, Earl of Cassillis. Campbell was denounced Rebel, and all his moveables ordained to be escheated. Geo. Craufurd of Lefnoriis, and William, his brother; John Campbell of Cesnock; Bartholomew Craufurd of Kerse; David and Duncan, his brothers; John Craufurd of Drongane; John and William, his sons, with a great number of others, found caution to underly the law for this crime on the third day of the next Justiciare at Air.—Dame ISSABELLA WALLACE, LADY LOWDOUNE, also accused for the same crime, was proved to be sick by Sir William Bankhede, her curate, and two witnesses.

(NOTE.—Numerous entries occur of persons cited for this crime, and, failing to appear, they were all denounced rebels).

INTER-COMMUNING WITH THE SHERIFF OF AIR.

November 23, 1527.—WILLIAM CUNUNGHAME of Glengarnock, Mungo Muir of Rowallane, John Hammyltone of Colmyskeithe, James Wallace of Carnale, Adam Wallace of Newtoune, John Foulartoune of Corsbie, and others, were amerciated for not appearing to underly the law for inter-communing, assisting, resetting, and supplying Hugh Campbell of Lowdoune, Sheriff of Air, and his accomplices, Rebels, and at the horn, &c. Their moveables were ordained to be escheated, &c.

WILLIAM CUNYNGHAME, MASTER OF GLENCAIRN, John Cunynghame of Caprintoune, David Cunynghame of Bertaneholm, Robert Cunynghame of Aket, William Wallace, Tutor of Cragy, George Ross of Hanyng, John Lokert of Bar, John Craufurd of Drongane, George Reid, in Dandelly, and Quintin Schaw, Tutor of Keris, found caution to appear before the Justiciar on Dec. 4, for Inter-communing, &c., with the Sheriff of Air.

[NOTE.—The origin of the quarrel between the Campbells and Craufurds on the one hand and the Kennedy's on the other, is unknown. They were on different sides in the national controversy then raging, the Earl of Cassillis siding with the Duke of Albany, Sir Hew Campbell with the Hamiltons and the Douglases. In all probability feudal antipathies directed the course which each pursued in the national struggle. The Earl of Cassillis was waylaid in the vicinity of Prestwick by a strong force of the enemy and barbarously slain. Sir Hew Campbell was not present on the occasion, but it was believed that he connived at the deed. Tradition, not very well defined, has it that, in revenge for the slaughter of his chief, Kennedy of Bargany sacked Achruglen, one of the strongholds of the Campbells in the neighbourhood of Galston, and that the Lady of Loudon, scorning to yield, together with her son and daughters, perished in the flames. So far as can be traced, none of the offenders were ever brought to justice.]

DEADLY FEUD—SLAUGHTER.

Stirling, July 28, 1528.—ALEXANDER KENNEDY OF BARGANY, and Hugh his Son, John Mure of Auchendrane, and James his brother, Gilbert Kennedy of Kirkmichall, James Kennedy of Blarequhane, Sir David Blacater, curate of Girvane, Thomas Corry of Keldwod, Thomas Kennedy of Coiff, Alexander Kennedy, brother of James of Knockdone, Alexander Kennedy of Glentig, William, abbot of Corsragwell, Gilbert Kennedy of Barmaclannochane, Mr Walter Kennedy, James Kennedy, son and heir-apparent of Patrick of Drummellane, John Kennedy, son and heir-apparent of Gilbert of Kirkmechell, Thomas Kennedy, son of Alexander of Bargany, Hugh Kennedy, son of Thomas of Dunneyne, David Kennedy, brother of the Laird of Kirkmechell, Alexander Kennedy of Zet, Thomas Kennedy of Dunneyne, John Kennedy of Bennane, Mungo Eklis of that Ilk, Patrick Kennedy of Drummellane, &c., (in all seventy-five persons) dilated for art and part of the cruel Slaughter of the deceased Robert Campbell of Lochfergus, Alexander Kirkwod, and Patrick Wilson.

Mr WALTER KENNEDY, Rector of Douglas, David his brother, James Kennedy, Thomas Boswell, Sir George Davidsone, John Kennedy, William Wricht, and Duncan Makrinnyll, chaplains, and George Berclay, parish clerk of . . . . were replegiated by Sir Robert Wemys, Chaplain and Commissary of Gawin, Archbishop of Glasgow, and found caution to underly the law for the above crime.

JOHN KENNEDY of Bardrochat, Thomas Murdoch of that Ilk, James Kennedy, brother of the Rector of Douglas, James Makrinnyll of Barneill, and seven others, found caution to

underly the law for the said crime at the Justice-aire of Ayr, &c.

(*Note.*—The John Mure of Auchendrane mentioned here, was the father of the more notorious John Mure, whose trial for murder appears later on. Other persons were cited for this Slaughter at later diets of the High Court, and were denounced rebels, put to the horn, &c.)

INTERCOMMUNING WITH REBELS IN CARRICK, BUTE, AND ARRAN.

January 15, 1529.—John Neilsone of Craigcaffy, and Michael and John Neilson, his cousins, were denounced rebels and put to the horn, &c., for not underlying the law for Resetting, Supplying, and Intercommuning with His Majesty's rebels in Carrick, Bute, and Arran; and for Oppression done to the Laird of Mochrum, coming to his dwelling-place of Mochrum, and breaking up the doors and windows, &c.

SLAUGHTER.

May 20, 1530.—John Cunynghame of Caprintoune, Alexander Cunynghame of Luglane, Adam Steuart of Schawtoune, Adam Cunynghame of Clavanis, and fourteen others.—Their cautioners were amerciated for not producing them to underly the law, for art and part of the cruel Slaughter of John Tod (May 21). They were denounced rebels, along with David Boswell of Auchinleck for this crime (May 23). Hugh Campbell of Lowdoune became surety for John Gibson and eight others, to appear and underly the law for the same Slaughter at the Justice-aire of Air.

FORETHOUGHT FELONY, AND OPPRESSION, &C.

May 23, 1530. — William Cunynghame of Glengarnok, David Cunynghame of Robertland, and thirty-seven of their followers, found caution to appear at the Justice-aire of Air, to underly the law for art and part of the forethought felony and oppression done to Gabriel Sympill, lying in the highway near Ormysheuche, awaiting his arrival, for his Slaughter, of forethought felony and old Feud.

FEUD BETWEEN CRAWFURDS AND KENNEDYS.

Perth, Nov. 29, 1530.—JOHN BRYANE and Allan Cathcart found John Crawfurd of Drongane and Quintin Schaw, tutor of Keris, to appear at the Justice-air of Air, to underly the law for art and part of the Theftuous stealing of sixty-five oxen and cows from James Kennedy of Blarequhaune, from his lands of Halfpennylands, and sixty more from his lands of Schenvene.

December 5.—JOHN KENNEDY of Giletree, Patrick Muir of Cloncard, and fifty-eight others found James Kennedy of Blarequhane as surety for their appearance at the Justice-air of Air, to underly the law for art and part of the theftuous stealing, under silence of night, from John Crawfurd of Kerehill, and his sub-tenants, forth of his lands and dwelling of Kerehill, six score oxen and cows, two hundred sheep, and six horses and mares, and for common oppression thereby done to the said John and his sub-tenants.—JAMES KENNEDY of Blarequhaune also finds Patrick Mure of Cloncard as his surety to appear and answer for the said crimes.

ABIDING FROM THE RAID TO THE WEST MARCHES.

February 8, 1532.—A number of Ayrshire and Galloway Lairds were denounced Rebels for treasonably abiding from the Host and Army to the West Marches towards England with the King's Lieutenant, on Jan. 5 last. Many produced certificates of sickness and licenses from the King and Lieutenant and were discharged. —The following is a specimen of the licenses that were usually granted on such occasions:—

License for Mr William Montgomery of Stair.

REX.

We, understanding that our lovite, Maister William Montgomery of the Stare, is sick and may not make travel without danger of his life, and that his son and apparent heir, with his household, according to his estate, is to depart to our Borders, with our dearest brother, James, Erle of Murray, our Great Warden and Lieutenant, for the defence of our realme, and resisting of our old enemies of Ingland: HEREFORE, WE grant and give license to the said Maister William to remain and bide at hame from this our Host and Army, now devised to pass to the Borders, the fifth day of January instant, to the effect foresaid; And he shall incur no danger nor skaith through his remaining and away-biding from the same, in his person, lands, or goods, and shall not be called nor accused therefor: Discharging all our Officers, present and to come: that is, our Justice, Justice Clerk, and Treasurer, and all others our Officers and Ministers of Court thereof, and of their offices in that part, And for his non-compearance to our said Host and Army; We, by the tenor hereof, discharge all calling or accusation that may follow thereupon, notwithstanding any our Letters or Proclamations made or to be made to the contrary; Anent the which, we dispense, by these presents, subscribed with our hand at EDINBURGHE, the year of God, one

thousand five hundred and thirty-two years, and of our reign the twentieth year.

JAMES R.

FEUD BETWEEN THE CUNYNGHAMES AND SEMPILLS.

November 20, 1533.—ALEXANDER CUNYNGHAME, son and heir-apparent of William, Master of Glencarne, Andrew, his brother, David Cunynghame of Robertland, Robert Cunynghame of Auchinberry, Robert Cunynghame of Aket, and William, his son, Adam Cunynghame, tutor of Laglane, John Campbell of Ardoch, Thomas Craufurd of Auchinamys, and thirty others, found caution (viz., the Master of Glencarne, William Cunynghame of Glengarnock, John Cunynghame of Caprintoune, . . , . Cunynghame of Cunynghameheid, Gabriell Cunynghame of Craganis, David Cunynghame of Robertland, and Robert Cunynghame of Aket) to underly the law at the next Justice-aire of Renfrew, for umbesetting the high-way, by way of Murder; to WILLIAM, LORD SYMPILL, lying in wait for his Slaughter, with a great company, between his Castle of Sympill and his Place of Lovell, on the fifth and seventh days of August last.

WILLIAM CUNYNGHAME of Glengarnock, David Cunynghame of Robertland, and Robert Cunynghame of Auchinhervy, with sixteen others, found caution to underly the law at the same Justice-aire, for art and part of the forethought felony and oppression done to Robert Snodgerse, Mark Sympill, and Patrick Young, coming with convocation of the lieges, to the number of a hundred persons, in warlike manner, on the (3rd) day of September last, within the lands of the said Robert, and forcibly seizing and imprisoning him, &c. The parties, both Cunynghame's and Sempill's, were bound over to keep the peace, under the pains of 5000, 2000, and 1000 merks each, according to their respective ranks.

OPPRESSION—INVASION—WOUNDING—MUTILATION.

Jan. 13, 1537—GILBERT, EARL OF CASSILLIS, Fergus Macdowall of Freuche, John Kennedy, younger of Drumellane, Alexander Kennedy of Glentig, James Kennedy of Knockdone, and twenty-three others, found surety to underly the law at the Justice-aire of Air for art and part of the Multilation, besetting the way, forethought felony, Oppression, and breaking the King's Proclamation in his absence, and coming upon John Dunbar of Blantyre, and his four servants, within the Burgh of Air, upon Dec. 9 last, to the number of fifty persons, armed in warlike manner, cruelly invading them for their Slaughter, Wounding three servants of the said John, and Mutilating two of them in the hand and thigh.

OPPRESSION—MUTILATION.

HECTOR, GEORGE, and DAVID DUNBAR, Hugh Hammiltoune, and John Gillis, found caution to underly at the next Justice-aire of Air, for art and part of the forethought felony, Oppression, and Mutilation of Peter Rankin, coming upon him and James his brother, within the Burgh of Air, upon December 8 last, and cruelly invading them for their Slaughter, of forethought felony.

RAVISHING—(FORCIBLE ABDUCTION).

June 10, 1537.—Thomas Kennedy, son of Thomas Kennedy of Knockreoche, found James Kennedy of Blarequhane as his cautioner, that he should underly the law at the next Justice-aire of Air, for art and part of the 'Revissing' Katerine Kennedy, daughter of deceased Alexander Kennedy, Girvanemanys.

MUTILATION.

August 9, 1537.—JOHN CUNYNGHAME of Caprintoune, David Boswell of Auchinleck, George Dowglas of Pennyland, and twenty-six others, found caution to underly the law at the next Justice-aire of Air, for art and part of the Mutilation of John Sampsoune, of the thumb of his right hand, of forethought felony.

BESETTING THE LAIRD OF AUCHINAMYS FOR HIS SLAUGHTER.

Nov. 13, 1537.—SIR JOHN WALCAR, Chaplain, dilated of art and part of Besetting the way to Thomas Craufurd of Auchinamys, at his Fishing of Cart, and invading him for his slaughter, in company with William Lord Sempill and his accomplices. He was replegiated by Gawin, Archbishop of Glasgow, to his Regality.

SEDITION AND INSURRECTION IN THE BURGH OF AIR.

January 19, 1538.—JOHN CRAUFURD of Drongane, came in the King's will for art and part of the Sedition and Insurrection made between the neighbours and the inhabitants of the burgh of Air, and for art of the common Oppression of his neighbours.—William Craufurd, young Laird of Leffnorriis, and John Lokert of Bar, became cautioners to satisfy the King and the parties.

HAMESUCKIN AND OPPRESSION OF THE LAIRD OF BARGANY IN AIR, &C.

January 19, 1538. — ALEXANDER LOKERT, burgess of Air, convicted of art and part of

Convocation of the lieges in great numbers, within the Burgh of Air, in Autumn last, against the tenor of the Acts of Parliament; and for art and part of the Hamesuckin (*i.e.*, assault of a man in his own house) and Oppression done to Alexander Kennedy of Bargany, his near neighbour, at the same time; coming to his house, within the Burgh of Air, in warlike manner, with invasive weapons, and throwing stones at his windows and doors, and breaking and destroying the same. And for art and part of the Sedition and Insurrection made between the neighbours and the inhabitants of the Burgh of Air; and for common Oppression of his neighbours

(Sentence unrecorded. In all probability Lokert found surety to satisfy the King and the parties.)

TAKING CAPTIVE, &C.—EJECTION FROM CERTAIN LANDS—MURDER.

February 21, 1538—THOMAS CRAUFURD of Auchnames and Archibald Prestoune came in the King's will, for the compulsion and taking captive of Sir Thomas Craufurd, chaplain, against his will, to the place of Auchnames, and for detaining him in captivity and subjection, for a certain space, usurping thereby his Majesty's authority.—He also came in the king's will, along with Thomas Rowane, for art and part of the unjust ejection and outputting of Margaret Love, widow, and John Paterson her son, furth of their set of the lands of Kebbilstoune, within the lordship of Auchnames. Hugh Montgomery of Hessilheid, the Master of Glencairn, and the Laird of Robertland, became cautioners to satisfy the King and parties.—The same day, the LAIRD OF AUCHNAMES, James, his brother, along with Prestoune and Rowane, received the King's Respite for the cruel slaughter and murder of John Quhite, committed of forethought felony. Craufurd of Hanyng became surety for the satisfaction of the parties.

CONVOCATION—WOUNDING—STOUTHRIEF—OPPRESSION.

October 2, 1538.—Richard Lauder and twelve others denounced rebels, &c., for not underlying the law for art and part of convocation of the lieges, to the number of a hundred persons, armed in warlike manner; and for art and part of besetting the way to Andrew Cunynghame, son of Sir William Cunynghame, Knight, Master of Glencarne; and for cruelly Wounding and Hurting him; and for stouthrief (*i.e.* theft) from him of his sword, whinger, belt, and purse, and certain money therein; and also for art and part of (assuming) his Majesty's authority in taking and detaining James Cunynghame, servant to the said Andrew, and putting him in the Stocks for twenty-four hours in subjection and captivity, he being a free man, thereby usurping the King's authority, &c.

SLAUGHTER OF THE LAIRD OF TURNBERRY.

May 23, 1539—James Reid, convicted of art and part of the cruel Slaughter of John Reid of Trumberry, coming upon him and slaying him of forethought felony.—BEHEADED.

DITTAY (*i.e.*, Indictment).—James Reid, you are indict and accusit for art and pairt of the felloune and cruel Slaughter of the deceased John Reid of Trumberry, coming upon him in his ain lands of Darndougall, in company with your father, Johne Reid, and your complices, to the number of nine persons, on the twenty-fourth day of Aprile last byepast; and cruellie slew the said deceased Johne, upon auld feud and forethocht felony, and be way of Hamesuckine; that ye committed the said slauchter upon forethocht felony, ye being at the Wappin-schawing in Are, when all your neighbours left their jacks behind them, ye said ye would not leave your jack behind you, for ye would have ado with your jack and weapons at hame; that ye committed the recent slauchter upon auld feud and forethocht felony, ye, the said James, and your said complices, at Whitsunday last bipast, set upon the said deceased John at the Leynheid of the Schaw, for his slauchter; and when he escaped frae you, and there was ane concord and way devised to be had betwixt you, you said 'there should be may (*i.e.*, more) betwixt you, till ane of your skins was cuttit.' *Item*, on the Sunday before the committing of the said slauchter, your father coming frae the Kirk of Mauchline, said to Johne Udart that he could get no way "dressit" betwixt him and the said deceased Johne for the heicht of his sons; and thereafter ye and your said complices lay continually on the Moss of Darndougall awaiting the said Johne for his slauchter, frae the Monunday till Furisday (*i.e.*, Monday till Thursday) that ye slew him; and on the day before ye slew his servants dogs that skeyet (*i.e.*, discovered) you where ye lay; and when ye saw him coming, ye, the said James, and your brother, ran before your father and slew him; and ye were hurt and wounded in the meantime, and had fled with the remnant, were nocht the war hurt and passed to ane bank (*i.e.*, balk, a reserved ridge or stripe of grass between tilled lands), and was found by James Logan, Scheref-depute of Are.

[NOTE.—James Reid, thus accused of murder, denied the charge, alleging that John Reid and his friends, to the number of ten persons, had pursued him and his father for the slaughter of the latter; that they had "chased him and his cattle and us off his said maling, and in the chasing of us they hurt me in the back; and when we turned again to defend us, we, the said John, in his ain default, and our pure defence, happened to get a stroke, me unwitting; through the which he is dead, and my enemies and friends through very malice allege that I have the fault thereof, which is not of verity, have called me before your lordship to put me to cummer (*i.e.*, difficulties) and trouble without any lawful or reasonable cause. Therefore, I beseech your lordship, for God's sake, of remede." On the ground of his poverty, the accused asked that "ane man of law" should be appointed to "speak for him," "as ye will have thank, reward, and merit of God, and of your own souls therefor." King James postponed the trial for twenty or thirty days on a representation that the Sheriff of Ayr, being a friend to the man that was slain, had put on the jury "certain private particular persons" who were biased against the accused. The venue was also changed to Edinburgh. Reid, however, was found guilty and beheaded.]

ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE TRIALS WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE REIGN OF KING JAMES V.

REMISSIONS AND RESPITES.

THE extracts which follow illustrate in many cases the trials which immediately precede:—

April 24, 1517.—Remission to SIR WILLIAM CUNNYNGHAME, Knight, Master of Glencarne, Son and heir-apparent of Cuthbert Earl of Glencarne, and twenty seven others, for the cruel slaughter of Mr Matthew Montgomery, Archibald Caldwell, and John Smyth, committed on forethought felony; and for the hurting of John (Master of) Montgomery, Son and heir-apparent of Hugh Earl of Eglintoune, &c.

June 18, 1526.—Respite to GILBERT ERLE OF CASSILLIS, Lord Kennedy, &c., James and Thomas Kennedy, his brother, Hew Kennedy of Girvanmanys, John, George, and Alexander his brother, David Kennedy, cme (*i.e.*, uncle) to the said Erle, James Kennedy of Knokdone, John Kennedy of Giltre, Patrick Ahannay of Scrby, Berthilmo Craufurd of Kerse, Robert and Duncan his brother, Williame Cunynghame of Boquhanne, Robert Grayme of Knockdoleane, Gilbert his brother, John Kennedy of Culzane, Gilbert Kennedy of Balmaclannoche (Balmaclannochan), John Bard of Kilhenze, Patrick Muir of Cloncard, John Muir of Auchindrane, John Muir his man, John Muir of Wodland, Thomas Corry of Welwod, Thomas his Son, Richert Makgee of Myrtoune, Thomas Davidsoune of Grenane, Thomas his Son, John Eklis of that Ilk, James M'Crynnell of Barneile, James Muir of Byngart, James Blair of Midill Auchindrane, Alexander M'Dowell, Tutor of Garthlon, John Kennedy of Benone, Johne Ross of Drumgrange, Gilbert Kennedy, the Provost's Son, Fergus Makdowell of Freuche, and two hundred and thirty-three others, for the Treasonable Slaughter of Cornelius de Machetema, Dutchman, in the time of the sitting of our Parliament; and for all crime and action that may follow thereupon; and for the Slaughter of Martyne Kennedy, and Gilbert Makilwraithe; and for the Intercommuning with our Rebels, being at our horne, &c., to the date hereof. For nineteen years to endure.

(NOTE.—From a subsequent entry it appears that the Slaughter of the Dutchman, Cornelius de Machetema, was taken part in by the Sempills and others, and that it took place at the Tolbooth of Edinburgh.)

July 1, 1526.—Respite to JAMES ERLE OF ARANE, Hew Erle of Eglintoune, Andro Lord Avandale, Hew Campbell of Lowdoune, William Wallace, Tutor of Cragy, and James Hammyltoune of Fynnart, Knight, with many others, to the number of five or six thousand, so many as the said Erle of Arane will verify, by his hand write, and make faithe thereupon, pertains, or are men or servants to him or them, for the treasonable arraying of Battle, Insurrection, and Fielding against Johne, Duke of Albany, &c., Tutor to the King's Grace, Protector and Governor of his Realme, coming with the King's authority, and his banner being displayed for the time at Kittycrocehill, beside Glasgow; and for all crime that may follow thereupon; and for all other Treasons, Slaughters, &c., in any time byegone, Treason in the King's person, and art and part of the Slaughter of the deceased Edward Cunynghame of Auchinharvy alone excepted. For the space of nineteen years.

July 16, 1526.—Respite to Cuthberte Erle of Glencairne, William, Maister thereof, James Cunynghame his brother, Robert Cunynghame of Aikheid, Robert Boyd of Portincarse, Robert Cunynghame, Young Laird of Watterstoune. William Cunynghame of Polquharne, John Cunynghame of Caprintoune, Alexander

Cunynghame of Laiglane, Edward Mure of Middletoune, David Cunynghame of Bertaneholm, William Cunynghame of Craganis, William Cunynghame of Cunynghameheid, Mungo Mure of Rowallane, William Cuninghame in Glengarnock, and Robert Boyd in Kilmarnock, for their treasonable art and part of besieging the Castle of Sterling in company with Johne, Duke of Albany, then Governor of this realm, the King's maist noble person being therein, at his tender aige; and for their treasonable intromitting with the King's person at that time, in company with the said John, Duke of Albany, his tutor, he being immediately to succeed to him (*i.e.*, being the person next in succession to the crown), and not able (*i.e.*, incapacitated) by the law to have his person in keeping; and for their treasonable arranging of ane field and battle against the said John, Duke of Albany, his tutor, Protector, and Governor of his realm, and representing his person, at Kittycorshill beside Glasgow; and for their treasonable besieging, taking, and withholding of his Castle of Dumbarton from his Grace and his servants, keepers thereof; and for all other crimes of treason, actions, transgressions, crimes and offences whatsoever, committed or done by the said persons, or any of them, in any time byegone, unto the day of the date hereof, without any exception. For the space of nineteen years.

July 1, 1528.—Remission to Hugh Campbell of Loudoune and thirty-two others for their treasonably coming against the King in arrayed battle near the Burgh of Linlithgow, on September 3, 1526; and for treasonably abiding from the King's armies at Solway and Werk; and for art and part of the slaughter of Gilbert, Earl of Cassillis. (At Stirling).

Eo die.—Remission to JOHN CRAUFURDE of DRONGAN, George Campbell of Glaisnock, David Cathcart of Douchray, and John Clerk, for the same crimes.

June 11, 1529.—Respite to HEW KENNEDY of Girvanemanyis for his treasonable art, part, and assistance given by him to Archibald, sometime Erle of Anguse, his uncle and brother, and their complices. To endure for the space of five years; so that (*i.e.*, on condition that) the said Hew pass to Fraunce within two months, and there remain at his Grace's pleasure. (At Jedburghe.)

December 23, 1538.—Respite to WILLIAME CUNYNGHAME OF AKINBAR, for all actions done by him before the date hereof, Treason, &c., excepted; for nineteen years.

December 24, 1539.—Remission to Hew, Earl of Eglintoune, Hew Master of Eglintoune, Neil Montgomery of Langschaw, Charles Mowat of Busby, John Craufurd, brother of the Laird of Kilbirny, and twenty-eight others, for treasonably abiding from the army of Solway; and for all other crimes committed prior to this date, Treason, &c., excepted. (At Linlithgow.)

June 12, 1540.—Remission to Lawrence Craufurd of Kilbirny for treasonably abiding from the army at Werk; and for all other crimes, Treason excepted.

March 6, 1542.—Respite to Morise Dalrimpill, David Kennedy, and Thomas Hornour, for the revising (*i.e.*, forcible abduction of) Jonet Creichtoune, called Lady Newtoune, and having carnal dealing with her by the said Morise, contrary to her will; for nineteen years. (At St Andrews.)

OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS.

NOTE.—In addition to these Remissions and Respites, Pitcairn selects other illustrations which throw an interesting light on the state of society existing during the reign of James V. The disturbed condition of the country and the prevailing lawlessness is suggested by a letter bearing date October 28, 1515, to Hew, Erle of Eglintoune, "making him and his assignees keepers, overseers, and suppliers of the Isle of Little Comeray, the deer, rabbits, and wild beasts being therein, until the King's perfect age of fifteen years, because Robert Huntare of Huntarestoune, forester of heritage of the said Ile, is nocht of power to resist the personis that waste the same, without supply or help." In January, 1530, the Abbot of Cosragwell, tutor, or guardian to Gilbert, Earl of Cassillis, was granted a safeguard for himself, "his kin, men, friends and servants," to pass to France and other parts beyond the sea, to do his pilgrimage. The two following entries explain themselves:—

December 9, 1537.—Letter of gift to Jonet Logane, relict of the deceased Johne Wallace of Cragy, in consideration that she is of our kith and blood, and has nought to live upon, howbeit she was dottit (*i.e.*, dowered) substantially, by the deceased our dearest father of good mind, whom God assoilzie, by payment of large sums of money for her tocher; therefore, being now that the lands and lordship of Cragy are fallen in our hands by reason of Warde, We, willing that the said Jonet be not utterly destitute of her living, has given, &c., the sum of forty merks of pension yearly, &c. (At Linlithgow).

March 23, 1538.—Letter of gift to Thomas Kennedy, son and apparent heir to Alexander Kennedy of Bargany, his heirs, &c., of all goods moveable and unmoveable, debts, &c., which

pertained to the deceased James Kennedy in the Schallauch of Glentig, and now escheat, because he, and Neil Boyd his servant, upon the . . . . day of March instant, upon auld feud and forethought felony, cruelly slew the deceased Patrick McIlivrik, at Craigneil, and for breaking of our sovereign lord his "fenssis and arrestis," and for deforcing of his officers, &c.

Hew Craufurd, son and heir-apparent to his father, Laurence Craufurd of Kilbirny obtained transference of his father's estates which had been declared forfeit because of the latter's interference with a process of law (June 11, 1546). On May 10, 1542, Alexander, Master of Glencarne, was appointed ruler and governor within the bounds of Kintyre, with power to execute the office of Sheriff thereof, and hold the necessary Courts.

The Accounts of the Lord High Treasurer of Scotland are hardly less valuable or suggestive than the records of events. So far as they have to do with Ayrshire, however, they relate chiefly to the expenses inourred by messengers sent from the Court to summon the unruly lords of the county to appear to answer for their misdemeanours. On February 11, 1533, there is an entry of twenty shillings for a "trentall" (i.e., three hundred) of masses "done for the Britonaris (Bretons ?) souls which perished at the Port of Aire"—an entry which seems to point to the loss of a vessel and crew. The entry that follows indicates a disaster of a similar character, and suggests a trait in the local customs of the time which was probably more common in the country at large, than commendable:—

November 12, 1532. — *Item*, to Cuthbert George, messenger, to ride with Letters direct to the Scherif of Air, and Bailie of Kile, to bring Archibald Curre, in Sandefurde, before the Lords of Council in Edinburgh, on Nov. 21 instant, to answer at our sovereign lord's instance, for the intromitting with a purse of money extending to seven hundred pounds, which pertained some time to Englishmenne that (were) drowned on the coast of Air: and also delivered to him, siclik, Letters charging the Provost and Bailles of the Burghe of Air, to bring Robert Nele, John Fallisdaill, and Thomas Stevinstoune, to answer the day and place afore expremit (i.e., mentioned) for the same cause, and to his wage—twenty eight shillings.

The sum of twenty shillings sufficed to summon the Earl of Montrose and Sir James Hammiltoune "to keep the day of Justiciary betwixt the Sympills and the Cunynghamis," at the period of the feud already referred to, which raged between these houses, and in which the Laird of Craganis and his servant were slain. In April, 1537, Thomas Hammiltoune, macer, received thirty shillings "for his labours done in searching of the Heretikis in the West Land," an entry that savours of the persecution; and twenty shillings were the month following bestowed on another special messenger who was sent to summon the men of Aire to compear before the Lords "anent the gear of them that were convict of Heresy," and which the men of Aire do not seem to have accounted for voluntarily. There are various entries at different periods of considerable sums disbursed to the Lady of Cragy, one of these amounting to twelve pounds twelve shillings, being for a "dole gown," kirtill, and hood, to be used for mourning on the occasion of the death of Margaret, Queen Dowager of Scotland in 1541.]

MARY STEWART, QUEEN OF SCOTS.

TREASONABLY ASSISTING THE EARL OF GLENCAIRN AT GLASGOW-MUIR.

February 5, 1545.—Sir Andrew Heriot, Chaplain in Glasgow, found caution to underly the law at the next Justice-aire of Lanark for treasonably coming with the Earl of Glencarne and his accomplices against the Lord Governor upon the Common-muir of the burgh of Glasgow (Feb. 14). He again found caution to the same effect.

ABIDING FROM THE RAID OF COLDINGHAME AND THE WEST MARCHES.

February 8, 1545.—John Craufurd of Giffertland and John Craufurd of Birkhede found surety (Colin Campbell of Ardkinglas) to underly the law at the new Justice-aire of Aire for abiding from the Queen's army, along with the Lord Governor at Coldinghame, for besieging the Place thereof, and expelling the enemies of England furth thereof.

CASTING DOWN AN IMAGE IN THE KIRK OF AYR.

In connection with a trial, in 1747, for casting down and breaking an image of Saint Magdalene, Pitcairn refers to Dr M'Crie's Life of John Knox, and quotes the following somewhat curious but apparently authentic incident:—"Walter Stewart, brother to Andrew Stewart, Lord of Ochiltrie, was accused before Bischop Dumbar of Glasgow, in Marche (1533), for casting doune ane image in the Kirk of Aire. He recanted his oppiniouns, after long dealling with him. But in returning hame, he drouned in the watter of Calder, so that, falling from his horse, none could rescue him. At length, getting hold of a

great stone in the watter, he cried to his friends and exhorted them that they (should) take example by him not to redeeme life by recanting of the truthe, for experience there proved it would not be sure. He protested he was there to die in the truthe which he professed; and that, being sorie for his recantatioun, he was assured of the mercie of God in Christ. He willed them to remember this work of God to their oune proffit. Being overcome and drawne from his grip of the stane (he was) drouned, notte being able to rescue him in the deep, whether he was caried. Howbeit, the watter was not deep qwhair he fell first. George Guide, one of the cheeff clerks of the Colledge of Judges in Edinbrugh, riding behind him upon the same horse, was saved."

SATISFACTION FOR MUTILATION REFERRED TO THE TREASURER.

March 26, 1547.—THOMAS KENNEDY OF KNOCKDAW, and David and Fergus his Sons, found Sir John Lawmond of Inneryne, Knight, 'that they for themselves and their complices shall recompense, satisfy, and please Robert Cathcart of Carletoune, for the mutilation committed by them upon him; and also shall please the Lord of Bargany in all behalfs, and his right, action, and interest in the premises, as my Lord of Dunkeld, Treasurer, shall please to modify under the pain of a thousand pounds; which modification shall be insert in the books of Adjournal, and to have the strength of an Act therof.'

May 10, 1549.—David Kennedy and Thomas, his brother, Sons of Thomas Kennedy of Knockdaw, were respited for mutilating Robert Cathcart of Carletoune of his left hand, and hurting and wounding him in the face; and for Convocation of the lieges in January, 1546-7. Robert, Master of Sempill became cautioner for satisfying the parties.

SLAUGHTER, RAVISHING, IMPRISONING.

March 27, 1550.—JAMES and JOHN CRAUFURD, Sons of Hugh Craufurd, senior, Robert, George, and Hugh Craufurd, Sons of William Craufurd of Barquhorn, John Beg, and John Browne, having previously found caution (George Craufurd of Lefnorese) to underly the law for the cruel Slaughter of William Mathy and Finlay Sym, and for ravishing (forcible abduction) of Agnes Craufurd Lady Lefnorese, and detaining her in captivity for a certain space; and for pursuing and invading Alexander Neabet for his Slaughter, of forethought felony and ancient feud; and for other crimes contained in his Letters: Failing to appear the Laird of Lochnoreis was amerciated, and they were all denounced rebels and put to the horn. James Dunbar and Andrew Porter were also denounced for the same crimes, and David Craufurd of Kerse was amerciated for their non-entry.

FEUD WITH LORD STEWART OF OCHILTREE.

July 15, 1550.—JOHN LOKART OF BAR, John his brother-germain, and Charles Campbell of Skerringtoune were denounced rebels and put to the horn, and the cautioners amerciated, for not appearing to underly the law for pursuing Andrew Lord Stewart of Ochiltree for his Slaughter, on May 25 last on old feud and forethought felony, &c.—Hugh Lokart, brother-germane to the said Laird of Bar, was replegiated by the Archbishop of Glasgow to answer for the said crime.

(NOTE.—It will be observed that two of the three brothers were called John. This was not at all uncommon, the intention being to perpetuate the one Christian name in the family and to make provision for the removal by death of the eldest son. The cautioners in this case were James Dalrumpill of Stair and William Campbell, brother to the Laird of Cesnok.)

SACRILEGE—SPOLIATION OF CHURCHES AND ALTARS—DESTROYING CHORAL STALLS, GLAZED WINDOWS, &C.

July 16, 1550.—JOHN LOKART OF BAR and Charles Campbell of Bargour, and their Cautioner (Archibald Earl of Ergyle) amerciated, for their not appearing to underly the law for their theftuous, and violent carrying off, Depredation, Stouthrief, and Spoliation, furth of sundry Parish Churches, Religious Houses, and Chapels, within the shires of Lanark, Renfrew, and the Stewartries of Kyle, Carrick, and Cuninghame, of sundry Eucharistic Chalices (*i.e.*, communion or sacramental cups), Altars, and ornaments of the Mass; and also for casting down and breaking Choral Stalls, and other Stalls, and Glazed Windows, &c., in the years 1545, 1546, 1547, and 1548, as specially contained in the Letters.

INTERCOMMUNING WITH THE LAIRD OF BALLAGANE.

November 14, 1554.—GEORGE CRAUFURD of Lefnoreis became in Will for intercommuning with Duncan Hunter of Ballagane being rebel and at the horn (for the Slaughter of John Griersoune in Beochane, and Andrew Griersoune in Bagrahill) under silence of night, on one occasion only, in August last—Sir Hugh

Campbell of Lowdoun, Knight, became surety to satisfy THE REGENT—and that the said George should remain in the Town of Edinburgh until the declaration of the said Will.—The same day John Craufurd of Drongane found surety to underly the law at the next Justice-aire of Air, for resetting, intercommuning, and supplying the Laird of Ballag ine, John his brother, Herbert H., in Baitfurd, and three others, rebels, &c., for the same crime.—James Eklis of that Ilk likewise came in Will for intercommuning with the said Herbert.

The following were absentees from the Assize:—John Lokkert of Bar, John Campbell of Lochlie, Robert Grahame of Knockdoleane, Robert Campbell of Kinziecleuche, Andrew Cuninghame of Hill, Hugh Montgomery of Hessilheid, George Kennedy of Balmaclennochane, David Boswell of Auchinlek, Neill Montgomery of Langschaw, Thomas Kennedy of Bargany, John Mure of Auchindrane, James Mure his brother.

RECEIVING THE HOLY SACRAMENT WHILE UNDER EXCOMMUNICATION.

April, 26, 1555—WILLIAM CUNYNGHAME OF LAGLAND found James Hammiltoune of Fynnert, Knight, as surety for his underlying the law at the next Justice-aire of Air, for infringing the Acts of Parliament, in bearing Sentence of Excommunication for year and day, and receiving the Holy Sacrament, while in that state.

[NOTE—This was an offence of a heinous and aggravated nature, especially previous to the Reformation, when the consequences of Church censures were very formidable.]

CONVOCATION OF THE LIEGES—INVASION.

January 8, 1556—John Cunnynghame of Glengarnock, Cuthbert Cunnynghame of Cochrane, and Alexander Cunnynghame, his brothers, John Cunnynghame of Croy and thirty two others, found caution to underly the law at the next Justice-aire at Air for *Convocation* of the Leiges to the number of thirty persons, armed in warlike manner, and coming under silence of night in July 1554, by way of Hamesaucken, to the house of Humphrey Galbraith in Easter Glenne, breaking up the doors thereof, entering the same, and searching for him for his slaughter; committed on forethought felony.

[NOTE—One of the thirty two here summoned was John Browne, "bastard," which may be intended to denote a nonentity or fictitious. The Cautioners were David Cunynghame of Robertland, and the Laird of [illegible]. At the same time Humphrey Galbraith [illegible] twelve others found similar caution to underly the law for oppression done to John Cunnynghame of Glengarnock, and Cuthbert his brother, on August 10 last, and for Mutilation of the said Cuthbert of the thumb of his right hand.]

THE LAIRD OF KNOCKDOLEANE DENOUNCED FOR SLAUGHTER.

March 4, 1556—Robert Grahame of Knockdoleane denounced rebel and put to the Horn as fugitive from the law, for the Slaughter of Duncan M'Gilwrik, committed in November 1554, on forethought felony.—He was again denounced on April 11, 1556.

STEALING A SILVER DISH OF THE QUEEN REGENT'S.

May 30, 1556—David Myre in the Craig, within the Shire of Air, found John Schaw of Haly, as Cautioner for his entry at the next Justice-aire of Air, to underly the law for art and part of the Theft and Concealment, furth of the house of John Lord Maxwell, from her highness THE QUEEN REGENT, in the month of August last, of a Silver Dish marked with the said Queen's Arms and being her private property.—John Edzare, burgess of Dumfries, found surety to underly the law at the next aire of Dumfries for the same crime; and Marjory Cunnynghame his wife was denounced Rebel, and her moveables confiscated as fugitive from the law,—(May 4, 1557.) She was allowed to come in the Queen's Will.

SLAUGHTER.

February 2, 1557.—ROBERT BERCLAY and DAVID M'CAIG, both in Capmistoune, convicted of art and part of the cruel slaughter of John Clerk, committed at the Place of Capmistoune on Jan. 8 last. Sentence, To be beheaded.

June 18.—*Robert Barclay in Capmistoune, of his own free motive will, convict of the slaughter of the deceased Johnne Clerk in Capmistoune, commands to be banished in presence of Johnne Clerk, son to the said deceased Johnne,' and also the Justice decerns him to be banished and to pass furth of this realm within twenty days next hereafter; and not to return thereto again without special licence of the Queen's grace under the pain of death.*

SLAUGHTER.

February 16, 1558. [illegible] that he found surety [illegible] Montgomery of Langschaw, to underly the law at the last

Justiceaire of Air for art and part of the cruel Slaughter of Andrew Dunlop, his son; committed in July last.

HAMESUCKEN—BESIEGING THE HOUSE OF PENKILL.

May 22, 1558.—THOMAS KENNEDY OF BARGANY, John and Alexander his son and brother, David Kennedy, son of the Laird of Bennane, William Caldwell, and seventeen others, found Sir Hugh Campbell of Loudoune, Knight, surety for their underlying the law at the next Justice-aire of Air, for Convocation of the lieges, armed in warlike manner, and coming by way of Hamesucken to the dwelling-house of Adam Boyd of Penkill, and Invading him, his wife, children, and servants, for their slaughter, and besieging them in the said house; and for Hurting and Wounding . . . Kennedy his wife, with stones. Committed on January 29 last.

SLAUGHTER.

September 13, 1558.—John Garden in Penbrek, in Glenmuir, convicted of art and part of the cruel slaughter of James Reid in Halfpennyland; committed in August last, on ancient feud and forethought felony, &c.—Beheaded.

PREACHING THE DOCTRINES OF THE REFORMATION AT AYR.

May 10, 1559.—John Willok denounced rebel for his usurping the authority of the Church, and for taking upon himself the service thereof, and also for convocation and gathering of the lieges within the said burghe, he not being admitted or approved by the Ordinary of that place; and without his licence, haranguing and preaching to the said lieges and persuading and seducing them to his erroneous and seditious doctrines and Heresies, thereby usurping the King and Queen's authority, and stirring up the lieges to commit Sedition and Tumults, contrary to the Proclamations. Robert Campbell of Kinzecleuche, his cautioner, was at the same time amerciated.

ABIDING FROM THE RAID OF JEDBURGHE.

April 30, 1562—William Cunynghame of Cunynghamhead, charged with abiding from the Raid of Jedburghe, and his son, the young Laird amerciated for his non-entry to underly the law.

CELEBRATING THE MASS—ATTEMPTING TO RESTORE POPERY AT KIRKOSWALD, MAYBOLE, &C.—CONVOCATION, &C.

May 19, 1563—At this date John, Archbishop of St Andrews and forty-seven others, were brought up on a charge of attempting to restore Popery. The roll, or list of the persons on panel, includes the names of Hew Kennedy of Blairquhynnye, Malcolm, Commendator of Quhithorne, David Kennedy, brother to William Kennedy of Brunstone, Sir William Tailzefeir, Sir Johne Dunlop, George Kennedy of Barmaclannochane, David Boyd, Dean Gilbert Kennedy, Dean Michael Dewar, Sir James Kennedy, and Sir Thomas Mure. The offences were not confined to Ayrshire, but the sentenee that follows deals principally with a breach of the regulations for public worship committed in this county:—

"The Assyise fylis and convicts the said Hew Kennedy of Blairquhynnye, Malcolm, Commendator of Quhithorne, David Kennedy, Sir Thomas Montgomery, and Sir William Tailzefeir of the contravention of our sovereign lady's Act and Proclamation, charging all her lieges that every one of them should contene themselves in quietness, keep peace and civil society among themselves, and that none of them take upon hand, privately nor openly, to make any alteration or innovation of THE STATE OF RELIGION, or attempt anything against the form which her Grace found publicly and universally standing at her arrival within this realm; that is to say, the said Hew Kennedy and David Kennedy, by making of Convocation of our sovereign lady's lieges, to the number of two hundred persons, arrayed after the manner of war with jacks, spears, guns, and other weapons invasive, of their causing, coming, fortifying, and ratihabitation upon the eighth, tenth, and eleventh days of April last byepast, coming to the Parish Kirk of Kirkoswell and College of Mayboill respectively. and there openly made alteration and innovation of the said STATE OF RELIGION which our sovereign lady found proclaimed and universally standing and professed at her arrival within this realm, ministering and abusing on their pretended manner, irreverently and indecently, the SACRAMENTS OF HOLY KIRK, namely, the Sacraments of the Body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, other ways and after another manner than the public and general order of this realm; and the said Malcom, Commendator of Quhithorne, Sir Thomas Montgomery, and Sir William Tailzefeir, ministering and abusing, on their pretended manner, irreverently and indecently, in the month of April foresaid, in the Place of Congiltoun, the Sacraments of Holy Kirk of the Body and blood of our Lord Jesus, other and in another manner than the public and general order of this realm, received and professed at our sovereign lady's arrival, contained in the said Proclamation; and that



in respect of their Confession of the same in judgment.

Sentence—Therefore the said Malcolm Prior of Quhithorne, Sir Thomas Montgomery, and Sir William Tailzefeir, were adjudged to be put in WARD within the CASTELL OF DUMBARTANE. And the said Hew Kennedy and David Kennedy to be put in WARD within the CASTELL OF EDINBURGH, there to remain during the will and pleasure of our sovereign lady.

Assize—John Maxwell of Terriglis, Knight; Andrew, Lord Stewarte of Ochiltry, the Lard of Lochinvar, the Lard of Glengarnok, the Lard of Caprintoun, younger, the Scheriff of Air, the Lard of Cunynghamehead, Hew Wallace of Carnell, the Lard of Crawfurdland, Mr Jo. Fullertone of Dreghorne, the Lard of Rowallane, Hew Cunynghame of Watterstoun, James Chalmer of Gaitgirth, Johne Dunbar of Michrume (Mochrum?) Gawan Dunbar of Baldtone.

COMMENDATOR OF KILWINNING FREED FROM WARD.

October 3, 1563.—Gawane Commendator of Kilwinning presented the Queen's Majesty's writing, and desired the same to be registered in the books of Adjournal; of the which the tenour follows:—

REGINA,

We, for certain causes moving us, grant and give licence to Gawane Commendater of Kilwyning to Depart out of the Town of Stirling and certain spaces thereabout, wherein he is now presently warded at our command, and to pass and do his lawful business where he pleases, within this our realm; and will and grant that he nor his Sureties shall incur the danger there threugh, nor to be called nor accused therefor; and to that effect will and command the Lord Justice Clerk, or other receivers of the said sureties, to delete the acts of the same furth of their books, for keeping of the said Ward, by this our writing, subscribed with our hand, at Stirling, the twenty-sixth day of September, 1563.

MARIA R.

CONVOCATION—INVASION OF THE LAIRD OF CAMLARG, &c., IN A FENCED COURT OF THE SHERIFF OF AIR.

December 12, 1564.—Bernard Fergussoun of Kilkeran, Thomas and David his brothers, and fifty-one others, delatit for Convocation of our Sovereign Lady's lieges, upon the last day of July last bypast, arrayed in fashion of war, &c., to the number of one hundred persons, contrary to the tenour of the Acts of Parliament, and coming within the Tolbooth of Air, where Robert Crawfurd of Clolynane, John Dunbar of Blantyre, and Robert Campbell of Ovirtoune, the Sheriff-Deputes of the Sheriffdom thereof, were sitting in judgment in a fenced court, for administration of justice; and there, openly, in plain face thereof, after injurious works betwixt them, cruelly invaded John Crawfurd of Camlarg, and others being with him in company, with drawn swords and staves for their Slaughter; and therethrough troubled the said Court, and stopped the said Sheriff-Deputes to minister justice in the action and causes contained in the Letters criminal direct thereupon, then depending before them. The other panels of note follow.

NOTE.—Thomas Fergussoune and those marked * was discharged Simpliciter:—Thomas Fergussoune in the Traife, Hector Fergussoune, spouse to Agnes Crawford, Niniane Fergussoune, his son, William Fergussoune of Auchinsoule*, Duncan Fergussoune of Glenbowar, Walter Kennedy, son to Drummellane, G. Kennedy of Balmaclannochene, Robert Blair, his household man*, Duncan Kennedy of Dalquharne, Andrew Grahame, his household man, William Cunynghame of Clonkard, David Kennedy, *alias* The Page*, John Kennedy of Drumnellane, Olipher and Robert, his sons, Gilbert Kennedy of Drumnellane, younger, Matho Kennedy, servant to Janet Kennedy, Hugh Kennedy, son to the Gudman of Bogend, Gilbert Kennedy, son to Sir Hew of Girvanmanis.

Gilbert Erle of Cassillis amerciated for not entering Patrik Kennedy, younger of Dalgerrok, and seven others, to underly the law. As Baillie of the Regality of Carsrawgall, he desired to replegiate Thomas Fergussoune in the Traif.—Continued to 'Thurisday next,' December 14.

December 14.—The Justice, by Interlocutor, ordained that the said Thomas Fergussoune in Travis be not replegiated to the said Regality, because there was no writings, acts, nor other reasonable cause propounded that the same was before a Regality. My Lord Cassillis protested that the Interlocutor pronounced thereanent be not prejudicial to his Regality foresaid.

ASSIZE.—The Laird of Carnall, John Cathcart of Carltoune, the Lard of Entrekin, George Corry of Kelwood, George Kessane, John Montgomerye in the Flatt, Johne Schaw of Grimmet, Thomas Scot of Hanyng, James Dunlope of that Ilk, John Blare of Myddil Auchindrane, William Inglis of Scheill.

December 25.—VERDICT.—The said Hectour, Thomas and Barnard Fergussoune, found of art and part of the Convocation &c.; continued, as to the rest, to the next Justice-aire of Air.

On the same day Johne Crawfurd of Camlarg, David and Quintine his brothers, were found, or 'fylit' by the above Assize for the same crime. Fifty-four others were also charged, the most remarkable of whom were William Crawfurd of Drummishay, David Crawfurd his brother, Allane Cathcart of Drumgowane, David Cunynghame of Polquhirne, William Cunynghame, his brother, David Craufurd of Kerse, William Cathcart of Wodheid, Al. Cwnynghame of Montounhill, William Cathkart of Watterheid, John Power of Silverwod, George Logan of Brounhill, Adame Dunbar of Barcurroch, Cuthbert Dunbar his brother, George Neisbet in Tempelland. The remainder of the pannel were remitted to the next Justice-aire of Air.

JAMES VI.

SLAUGHTER.

November 4, 1570.—WILLIAM CWNINGHAME of Aikett, William Fergushill and Florence Crawfurd his servants, John Raburne of that Ilk, dilated of the Slaughter of John Mure of Caldwell. Prelocutors for the Pannell, my Lord Prowand, Mr David Borthwick. The same prelocutors asked instruments that they presently behoved to speak in defence of the persons accused in respect of the letters purchased by the King's advocates, and of their declaration made in judgment that they would insist in pursuit of this cause.

Mr John Spens of Condie, one of the foresaid advocates, asked instruments, that he, by a precept and writing subscribed by my Lord Regent, was charged to pursue the said persons, and conform to the command thereof, would proceed to process; which writing he desired to be inserted in the books, for his warrant, whereof the tenour follows:—

"Advocates.—It is our will, and we charge you, that ye pursue our Sovereign lords' letters raised against William Cuninghame of Aiket, and John Raburne of that Ilk, and their complices, for arte and part of the Slaughter of the late John Mure of Cauldwell at the day contained therein but (*i.e.*, without) delay or deferring. As ye will answer to his Majesty and us thereupon. Subscribed with our hand at Edinburgh, the third day of September, 1570.

Mathow, Regent."

The same day compeared Williame Edmestoune, in presence of my Lord Justice and his Deputes, in judgment, and exponed and declared that, forasmuch as Williame Cuninghame of Aiket, and Johnne Raburne of that Ilk, his Gude-Son (*i.e.*, son-in-law), and remanent persons on pannell, by their own mean and information, at least by information of others in their names, of their causing, had purchased letters at the instance of our sovereign lord's advocates, upon themselves, for the slaughter of the late John Mure of Caldwell, knight, committed and done by the late Alexander Cuninghaim, younger of Aiket, and by their cause, command, and resett of bloody hand, the said William, for the entertainment of his gudeson, who was actor, factor, and principal committer of the same by them, the tenth day of September last bye-past, upon the Earl of Cassillis' lands, called the Bordlands; and therewith have caused charge themselves to find surety to underly the law for the said slaughter in the tolbuith of Edinburgh, before the justice or his deputes, the third day of November instant; as also caused an assize to be summoned to that effect, of such persons as they best pleased, baith suspect and not knowing the verity. To the pursuit of the which cause Robert Mure, now of Cauldwell, son to the deceased Johnne, were never warned nor required, nor gave information to the raising of the said letters, nor had knowledge thereof. And the said Johnne Raburne dwells within the Regality of my Lord of Sanct Johnne, and in hurt and prejudice of the privilege of the said Regality has declined therefrom and taken to the royalty to this effect; And therefore, alleged, that my Lord Justice, nor his deputes here present, should not put the said William Cunninghame of Aiket, and the said Johnne Raburne of that ilk, to the knowledge of the said Assyise, by virtue of the said letters; the said Robert Mure never being warned nor required to the pursuit thereof; and, as he understood, the assurance betwixt the Lords unrun-out: In the meantime, therefore, protested, if my Lord Justice or his deputes did in the contrary, that the same was not prejudicial to the said Robert Mure; but that he, for his interest, might in all time hereafter pursue the said William and his complices now on pannell for the slaughter of the said deceased Johnne his father; and that no declaration of the Assyise, nor purgation of the said William thereof, should be repute or held sufficient, nor testimony of the Justice declaring the same, and that specially of the late practice, authorised in the contrary. Upon the which premisses, the said William required acts, &c.

ASSIZE.—The Assize included John Cunning-



hame of Camlarge and James Stewart, son to the Lord Ochiltrie.

VERDICT.—The whole Assyise, in one voice, without difference, acquitted the foresaid pursuers on pannell. Which declaration being made and pronounced by the mouth of Mr Johnne Perterfield (of that ilk) protestation was made for their testimonials.

ABIDING FROM THE RAID OF LINLITHGOW.

November 27, 1570.—ALEXANDER KENNEDYE of Drumquharne and Patrick Kennedye of Culnane, dilated for remaining from the raid ordained to convene at Lynlythgw, the second day of August last bye-past. Pursued by Thomas Kennedye of Barganye as donator (of their escheit) and the advocates. Continued to the Justice-aire of Air.

IDOLATRY—CELEBRATION OF THE MASS, &C.

March 13, 1572.—JASPAR MONTGOMERIE and John Masoune, dwelling at Eglintoune; Sir Johnne Muir, dwelling at Kilmarnock.—Hugh, Earl of Cassillis, and Charles Mowet of Busbye are fined, the former in forty pounds and the latter in eighty pounds, as cautioners for the above pannels for their non-appearance, for the abominable and detestable crime of idolatry, committed by themselves and others with them, contrary to the true and righteous institution of the Word of God, the celebration of mass, the solemnisation of marriage, &c., within the castle of Eglintoune. Denounced rebels, and their moveable goods to be escheat to the King's use.

INCEST.

March 31, 1573.—MARIOUNE REID, delated of art and part of the abominable crime of incest, committed with Gilbert Young in Barnaught; being his wife, and knowing perfectly her said spouse to have lain in fornication with Janet Reid, her sister, of before, and a bairn procreat betwixt them, and she admonished by the Kirk to abstain therefrom. Surety, Johnne Reid of Freyndlasheid to the morne; and thereafter continued under surety to the third day of the Justice-aire of Air, or sooner, upon fifteen days' warning.

GILBERT YOUNG, in Barnaght, delated for the same crime. Johnne Reid of Freyndlasheid, his cautioner, is fined for his non-appearance; and Young ordained to be denounced rebel, and his moveables confiscated, as fugitive from the law.

CONVOCATION OF THE LIEGES—USURPATION OF THE KING'S AUTHORITY, &C.

November 6, 1576.—GEORGE CRAWFORD of Lesnories, .Hew Craufurd of Auchinvie (his bailie), George Crawfurd of Auchincroice, Ronald Hutcheon in Hannaystoun, and thirteen others. Delated of convocation of our sovereign lord's lieges, to the number of sixty persons or thereby, arrayed in warlike manner, contrary to the Acts of Parliament; and coming to the house of David Blak in Dallek-killis, wherein they had housed Johne Craufurd of Heidmark, to the same by the space of three hours or thereby, until they forced him to render the same to them; taking of the said Johne Craufurd in Heidmark perforce, and having him bound as captive to the place of Lesnories, when they detained him within the same, by the space of eighteen days or thereby, in strait captivity and prison; usurping therethrough our sovereign lord's authority upon them, the said Johne being his highness' free liege-man, and they having no power nor commission to that effect. Committed in the month of October, the year of God one thousand five hundred and seventy-four years; of the special causing, devising, art, part-taking, command, assistance, and ratihabitatioun (*i.e.*, confirmation) of the said George Craufurd of Lesnoreis, and other crimes, at length contained in the letters direct thereupon. Continued to the Justice-aire of Air the third day, or sooner upon fifteen days' warning.

SORCERY, WITCHCRAFT, AND INCANTATION.

November 8, 1576.—ELIZABETH or BESSIE DUNLOP, spouse to Andrew Jack in Lyne.

[NOTE.—Pitcairn prefaces this trial with a lengthy note. Lyne or Linne, he says, was a six-merk land lying in the barony of Dalry, the property of the family of Lord Boyd. It is likely that Bessie and her husband were tenants or cottars on this estate, as the principal scene of the following transactions is laid within the county of Ayr.

"The Trial of Bessie Dunlop," continues Pitcairn, "is one of the earliest, and may be reckoned as one of the most extraordinary cases on record, in reference to the infatuation, common to all the nations of Europe at that period, on the subject of Witchcraft. It is in every view extremely interesting, but more particularly on account of the very minute and graphic details given by Bessie of many circumstances connected with the prevailing superstition, especially in relation to the *Court of Faerie*."

In all probability — almost certainly, indeed—the indictment that follows was drawn on the lines of Bessie's own confession, extorted from her by the most exquisite

torture. No cruelty was too great to be applied to a *notour witch*, and this unfortunate designation required no firmer basis than the scandal or common gossip of the neighbourhood. Although no mention is made of such a thing in the extraordinary charges against Bessie, it appears from many other cases given in the pages of Pitcairn that witchcraft was the occasion of much immorality in the "coveys" or gatherings of its adherents. This is an aspect of witchcraft that cannot be enlarged upon, but it must be borne in mind in estimating the justification —such as it was—for the cruel severity meted out to those who either professed, or were believed to possess, the art of "Devilrie." When the Kirk emerged from the fires of persecution, it had not lost its faith in the efficacy of the stake.)

Dilatit of the using of Sorcerie, Witchcraft, and Incantation, with Invocation of Spirits of the Devil; continuing in familiarity with them at all sic times as she thought expedient; dealing with charms and abusing the people with devilish craft of Sorcery foresaid, by the means after specified; used these divers years byepast, specially at the times and in manner following.

In the first that, forasmickle as the said Elizabeth being demanded by what art and knowledge she could tell divers persons of things that (were) tynt (*i.e.*, lost) or were stolen away, or could help sick persons? Answered and declared that she herself had no kind of art or science so to do; but divers times, when any such persons came over to her, she would enquire at ane Thom Reid who died at (*i.e.*, on the field of) Pinkie, as he himself affirmed, who would tell her whatever she asked.

(2) *Item*, she being enquired what kind of man this Thom Reid was? Declared, he was an honest, weel elderly man, grey bearded, and had a grey coat with Lombard sleeves of the old fashion; a pair of grey brecks and white shanks, gartered above the knee; a black bonnet on his head, plain behind and close before, with silken laces drawn through the lips thereof, and a white wand in his hand.

(3) *Item*, being interrogated, how and in what manner of place the said Thom Reid came to her? Answered, as she was going betwixt her ain house and the Yard of Monkcastle, driving her kye to the pasture, and making heavy sair dule (*i.e.*, lamentation) with herself, greeting very fast for her cow that was dead, her husband and child that were lying sick in the land-ill (*i.e.*, famine, pestilence, or plague), and she new risen out of gissane (*i.e.*, child-bed), the foresaid Thom met her by the way, hailed her and said, 'Gude day, Bessie,' and she said, 'God speed you, gudeman,' '*Sancta Marie*,' said he, 'Bessie, why makest thou sae great dule and sair greeting, for ony warldlie thing?' She answered, 'Alas! have I not great cause to mak great dule? for our gear is trakit (*i.e.*, dwindled away); and my husband is at the point of death, and a baby of my own will not live, and myself at a weak point; have I not good cause then to have a sair heart?' But Thom said, 'Bessie, thou hast crabbit (*i.e.*, incensed) God, and asked some thing thou should not have done; and therefore I counsel thee to mend to him; for I tell thee thy bairn shall die, and the sick cow, or (*i.e.*, before) you come home; thy two sheep shall die too; but thy husband shall mend and be as hale and strong as ever he was.' And then I was something blither, for that he told me my gudeman would mend. Then Thom went away from me, in through the yard of Monkcastle; and I thought he gaed in at a narrow hole of the dyke, nor any earthly man could have gone through; and so I was something fleit (*i.e.*, afraid). This was the first time that Thom and Bessie foregathered.

4. *Item*, the third (second?) time he appeared to her as she was going betwixt her own house and the Thorn of Damwstarnok, where he tarried a guid while, and speired at her 'if she would not trow (*i.e.*, trust) in him?" She said 'she would trow in anybody that did her gude.' And Thom promised her baith gear, horses, and kye, and other graith, if she would deny her Christendom and the faith she took at the fount-stane. Whereunto she answered 'that if she would be riven at horse-tails, she should never do that'; but promised to be leal and true to him in onything she could do. And further, he was something angry with her that he would not grant to her that which he spake.

5. *Item*, the third time he appeared in her ain house to her, about the twelfth hour of the day, where there were sitting three tailors, and her ain gudeman; and he took her apron and led her to the door with him, and she followed and gaed up with him to the kill-end, where he forbade her to speak, or fear for anything she heard or saw; and when they had gone a little piece forward she saw twelve persons, eight women and four men. The men were clad in gentlemen's clothing and the women had all plaids round about them, and were very seemly-like to see; and Thom was with them. And demanded if she knew any of them? Answered, nane except Thom. Demanded, what they said



to her? Answered, they bade her sit down and said, 'Welcome, Bessie, wilt thou go with us?' But she answered not, because Thom had forbidden her. And further declared, that she knew not what purpose they had amongst them (*i.e.*, what was the subject of their conference); only, she saw their lips move; and within a short space they parted all away; and a hideous ugly sough of wind followed them; and she lay sick till Thom again came back from them.

(6) *Item*, She being demanded if she speired at Thom what persons they were? answered, that they were the gude wichts that wynnit in the Court of Elfame (*i.e.*, the Court of Faery, elf-hame), who came there to desire her to go with them; and further, Thom desired her to do the same; who answered, 'She saw no profit to gang that kind of gait unless she kenned wherefore!' Thom said, 'Seest thou not me, baith meat-worth, claith-worth, and gude aneugh like in person; and (he) should make her far better than ever she was?' She answered 'that she dwelt with her ain husband and bairns and could not leave them.' And so Thom began to be very crabbit with her, and said, 'if so she thought, she would get little gude of him.'

(7) *Interrogated*, If she had sought anything at Thom to help herself, or ony ither with? Answered, that when sundry persons came to her to seek help for their beast, their cow or yow (*i.e.*, ewe), or for a bairn that was tane away with an evil blast of wind, or elf-grippit, she gaed and speired at Thom what micht help them? and Thom would pull an herb and give her (it) out of his ain hand; and bade her scheir the same (*i.e.*, after being mingled with other herbs it was to be sifted or strained) with other kind of herbs, and open the beast's mouth and put them in; and the beast would mend.

(8) *Item*, Thom gave her, out of his own hand, a thing like the root of a beet, and bade her either seethe or make a saw (*i.e.*, an ointment) of it, or else dry it and make powder of it, and give it to sick persons, and they should mend.

Interrogated, how she knew the same would heal? Declared, that so soon as she rubbed the saw upon the patient, man, or woman, or child, and it drank it, the child would mend; but if it swat out, the person would die.

(9) *Item*, demanded to whom she applied that kind of medicine? Answered, that she mended John Jack's bairn, and Wilson's of the town, and her gudeman's sister's cow. Three times Thom gave her the same herb out of his own hand. And demanded, to whom she applied the powder in drink? Declared, that the Lady Johnstoune, elder, sent to her a servant of the said lady's called Catherine Dunlop to help a young gentil woman, her daughter, now married on the young Laird of Stanelie; and I thereupon asked council at Thom. And he said to me that her sickness was a cauld blude that gaed about her heart that caused her to dwam and vigous away (*i.e.*, suddenly to swoon or faint away); and Thom made her take ane part of ginger, cloves, annise-seed, liquorice, and some stark ale, and seethe them together, and schyre it (*i.e.*, seethe it), and put it in a vessel, and take a little quantity of it in a mutchkin can, and some white sugar cast among it; take and drink thereof ilk day in the morning; gang (*i.e.*, walk) a while after, before meat, and she would be haill. Interrogated, where she gave the gentil woman the drink? Answered, in her own sister's house, the Lady Blackhall's. Demanded, what she got for her doing? Delared, a peck of meal and some cheese.

(11) "*Item*, she being demanded if she could do any gude to ony women that were in travel of their child bed-lare? Answered, that she could do nothing till she had first spoken with Thom; who laid down to her a green silken lace, out of his own hand, and bade her tack it to their wylie cottis (*i.e.* under-dress) and knit about their left arm; and incontinent the sick woman would be delivered. But the said lace being ance laid down by Thom, she could never apprehend it and made great seeking therefor. *Item*, declared, that when herself was lying in child-bed-lair of her last laid (*i.e.*, burthen) Thom came to her in her ain house and bade her 'tak ane gude heart to her, for nothing should ail her.'

(12) *Interrogated*, if she could tell of onything that was away, or onything that was to come? Answered, that she could do nothing herself, but as Thom told her; and further declared, that mony folks in the country (came to her) to get wit of gear stolen from them. Demanded, what persons they were? Answered, the Lady Thirdpart in the barony of Renfrew, sent to her, and speired at her who it was that had stolen from her, twa horns of gold and a crown of the same, out of her purse? And after she had spoken with Thom, within twenty days, she sent her word who had them; and she got them again. *Item*, James Cunninghame, Chamberlain of Kilwinning, came to her about some here that was stolen furth of the barne of Cragance; and she told him where it was, and he got it again. *Item*, the Lady Blaire sundry times had spoken with her about some clothes that were stolen from her; a pair of stemming hose, a pair of sheets, a codwair,

linen cloths, sarks, and serviettes, for the which she dang and wrackit her ain servants; but Thom told her 'that Margaret Symple, her ain friend (*i.e.*, relation) and servant, had stolen them.' *Item*, being demanded of William Kyle, burgess of Irvine, as he was coming out of Dumbartane wha was the stealer of Hew Scott's cloak, ane burgess of the same toun? Thom answered that the cloak would not be gotten, because it was taen away by Malye Boyde, dweller in the same toun, and was put out of the fashion of a cloak, in a kirtill (*i.e.* transformed into a kirtle); and albeit, the said William had promised that she should not be troubled for the declaration of the same; yet, so soon as she came to the market of Irvine, she was put in the Tolbooth and stricken, but was relieved by James Blair, brother to William Blair of the Strand.

(13) *Item*, Demanded (if she had been applied to?) by Henrie Jamesoun and James Baird in the Mains of Watterstoun, to get them knowledge who had stolen their plough-irons, fittick and musell? Declared, 'she should give them answer so soon as she had spoken with Thom; who shewed her that Johne Blak and George Blak, smiths, had stolen the same; and that the coulter and sock were lying in his ain house betwixt ane mickle ark and a great kist'; and further said, 'that when they came there to the reaping, they should not find them; because that Jame Dowgall, sheriff officer, who then presently was with them, should receive three pounds for the concealing of them; for the which cause also she was apprehended by the said smiths, and brought to my Lord of Glasgow (*i.e.*, the Bishop of Glasgow, James Boyd of Trochrig, second son of Adam Boyd of Pinkill, brother to Lord Boyd, Bessie's landlord, and apparently favourable to her. See article 23 of indictment.)

(14) *Interrogated*, how she kenned that this man was Thom Reid, that died at Pinkie? Answered, she never knew him when he was in life; but, that she should not doubt that it was, he bid her gang to Thom Reid, his son, now officer in his place to the Laird of Blair, and to certain others his kinsmen and friends there, whom he named; and bade them restore certain goods, and mend other offences that they had done; and that it was he that sent them word thereof; 'Remember . . . . that when he and he went together to the black Saturday; and that the said . . . . would have been another gait; he drew him by the Kirk of Dalry and there coft ane pound of 'feggis,' and gave him, and put them in his napkin;' 'and so they went together till they came to the field (of Pinkie). (The blanks are in the indictment. The words quoted are those which Thom desired her to repeat to each of these persons, in testimony of the truth of her errand).

(15) *Item*, Interrogated, it Thom, at his own hand, had sent her to any person to shew them things to come? Declared, that he sent her to no creature in middle-earth (often alluded to in fairy superstition) but to William Blair of the Strand, and his eldest dochter who was contracted, and shortly to be married, with . . . Crawfurd, young Laird of Baidland, and declare unto them 'that if she married that man she should either die a shameful death, slay herself, cast herself down a craig, or get red-wood' (*i.e.*, stark, or raving mad), whereby the said marriage was stayed; and the laird foresaid married her youngest sister. Tried to be of verity.

(16) *Interrogated*, what she thought of the new law? (*i.e.*, the Reformed Religion) Answered, that she had spoken with Thom about that matter; but Thom answered that this new law was not good, and that the old faith should come home again, but not as it was before. Interrogated, if ever she had been in suspect place with Thom, or had carnal dealing with him? Declared not, upon her salvation and condemnation, but once he took her by the apron and would have her go with him to Elfame (*i.e.*, fairy-land).

(17) *Item*, interrogated, what time of the day or night he most resorted to her? Answered, that at the twelfth hour of the day was his common appearing.

(18) *Interrogated*, if she had seen him going up and down the world? Declared, that ance she saw him going in the kirkyard of Dalry amongst the people.

(19) *Demanded*, if she spoke onything to him? Answered, no, because he had forbidden her, that, wherever she saw him or met with him, she should never speak to him unless he spoke to her first. *Item*, she saw him going up and down on the gait (*i.e.*, street) of Edinburgh, upon a market day, when he laughed to her, and gaed up and down among the people, and put his hands to the lavis as ither folk did.

(20) *Interrogated*, if she never asked the question at him wherefore he came to her mair (than) to any other body? Answered, remembering her, when she was lying in child-bed-lair, with one of her laiddis (*i.e.*, burthens) that a stout woman came in to her, and sat down on the form beside her, and asked a drink at her, and she gave her; who also told her that that bairn would dee, and that her husband should mend of his sickness. The said Bessie an-



swered that she remembered weel thereof; and Thom said, 'that was the Queen of Elfame. his mistress, who had commanded him to wait upon her and to do her gude.'

(21) *Interrogated*, if ever she had spoken with him at ane loch or water-side? Answered, never save once that she had gone afield with her husband to Leith, for hame-bringing of meal, and ganging afield to tether her naig at Restal-rig-loch, where there came a company of riders bye, that made sic a din as if heaven and earth had gone together; and, incontinent, they rade into the loch with many a hideous rumble. But Thom told it was the gude wichts that were riding in middle-zerd (*i.e.*, middle-earth.)

(22) *Interrogated*, when she spoke last with Thom? Declared, on the morne after Candle-massday, last was, where she spoke with him, and he told her of the evil weather that was to come.

(23) *Interrogated*, if she never speired what trouble should come to her for his company? Declared, that she would be troubled therefor; but bade her seek an assize of her neighbours, and nothing should ail her; further declared, that she should be brought to Glasgow, and if she should come into the Bishop's hands, she would be well-treated and sent hame again.

(24) *Item*, the said Bessie declares that the Laird of Auchinskeyth is riding with the fairy-folk, albeit he died nine year syne.

At Dalkeith, September 20, 1576.—(25) Dessie Dunlop being re-examined, in presence of the Laird of Whittinghame and George Auchinleck of Balmanno, and being inquired, how oft Thom Reid came to her or (*i.e.*, before) she enquired how they called him? Depones, that he came thrice, and that she had no power, at no time, to try or tell ony ithers, in the meantime, of his coming. He required her sundry times to pass with him, and because she refused he shook his heid, and said he should cause her forthink it. Depones further, that she has spoken with him at divers times by the space of four years.

(26) Being inquired anent the pleuch-irons stolen from Henrie Jamesoun and James Baird (see article 13) depones, that she inquired at Thom Reid, who declared to her that Gabriell Blak and Geordie Blak in Lockarsyde saw them, and brought them to their father's house, named Johnne Blak, upon a cuttit grey horse (*i.e.*, a gelding) on a Saturday, in the night; which she told again to the said Henrie Jamesoun and James Baird.

(27) *Item*, depones that four years syne, or thereby she saw the Laird of Auchinskeyth, at a thorn (*i.e.*, a fairy's trysting tree) beyond Monk-castell; which Laird died more than five years syne (before?) Thereafter she, at the desire of the Ladye Auchinskeyth, inquired at Thom Reid if sic a man was among them? Who answered that he was among them.

Assize.—Andro Craufurd of Baithlem, Hew Hommyll in Kilburne, Thomas Gawand there, Cuthbert Craufurd in Kilburnie, Hugh Dunlop of Crawfield, Henry Clerk in Cokeydaill, John Knok in Kilcuse, James Aitkin in Balgrene, Johnne Or in Barnauch, Thomas Caldwell in Bultreis, James Harvey in Kilburnie, Robert Roger there, Johnne Boyde in Gowanlie, Johnne Cochrane in the Manys of Bar, Thomas Stewart of Flaswod.

Verdict.—And immediately after the chooseing and swearing of the said persons of assize, as use is, the said Elizabeth Dunlop, being on pannell, accused by dittay (*i.e.*, indictment) openly read in judgment, of the crimes above written; the same persons removed themselves furth of court and all-together convened and reasoned on the points of the said dittay; and being ripely advised therewith, and resolved therein; re-entered again to the said Court of Justiciarie, and there, in presence of the said Justice-depute, by their deliverance, pronounced and declared by the mouth and speaking of Andro Craufurd of Baithleme, found and delivered the said Elizabeth Dunlop to be culpable and convicted of the haill points above written, and of using of Witchcraft, Sorcery, and Incantation, with Invocation of Spirits of the devil, continuing in familiarity with them at all times, as she thought expedient, and thereby dealing with charms, and abusing the people, with her devilish craft of Sorcery foresaid, by the means above specified.

Sentence—'Convict and Burnt.'

[Note.—Unfortunately the sentence is not recorded at length, though there is every reason to believe that it was duly carried out. As in other cases, however, Bessie would doubtless be delivered over to be "wirreit at a stake," or strangled after being affixed to the stake, and thereafter her body to be "burnt in ashes" and her whole moveable goods "escheat and inbrocht to the King's use." It was only in extreme cases that the witches were cast "quick," or alive, into the fire. Horrible scenes occasionally followed this method, the poor wretches trying to escape and being thrust back into the flames.]

HAMESUCKEN—OPPRESSION—THEFT.

[Note.—This and the three following cases are, as will be seen, closely interwoven.

They are evidently the results of a feud between rival branches of the family of Montgomerie, and throw a very clear light on the possibilities incidental to feudal warfare in Ayrshire in the sixteenth century—not only so far as the offences themselves are concerned, but also on the influence which powerful families had in the Courts of Justice. So far as can be traced, nobody was ever brought to book for the outrages committed.]

December 1, 1576—JOHNNE MUNTGUMRIE OF SCOTISTOUN, Walter Muntgumrie, his brother, and Robert Kent, servant to the said Johnne.

The said Walter Muntgumrie protests that the continuation of the said matter to the third day of the Air, or sooner, &c., prejudge nowise the regality of Glasgow, wherein he dwells.

The said Robert Kent, dilatit of art and part of the crimes underwritten, contained in our sovereign lord's letters, purchased by Hew Muntgumrie of Hesilheid, Marioun Sempill, his spouse, Mr David Borthwick of Lochhill, and Robert Creychtoun of Eliok, advocates to our sovereign lord, for his highness' interest; which letters make mention:

Dittay against Robert Kent.

That upon the xix. day of July last bypast, the deceased Gabriell Muntgumrie, brother to Johnne Muntgumrie of Scottistoun, being come to the place of Hesilheid, and being offended by a cuff alleged given by the said Marioun Sempill to Robert Kent, servant to the said deceased Gabriell; and seeing the time would not serve to take revenge at that time, of his former concieved malice, he departed in his rage and concieved hatred that night to the place of Thirdpart, in Giffing, three quarters of a mile distant from the said place of Hesilheid, or thereby; he having unburdened himself to his said brother, who was at home at boarding, of the displeasure, as he alleged, done to his said servant, and shame unto himself; the said Johnne Muntgumrie reproaching him of his feebleness, that he took not presently a revenge thereof; exhorted, enticed, and hounded him forth that same night, to the effect after following; who immediately thereafter, that same night, came to the place of Hesilheid at xi. hours of the night, and awaited beside the same, in the house of Alexander Knok, till the morne thereafter, which was the xx. day of the said month of July; and then returned to the said place, to take revenge of the said Hew, as he in whose place the said injury alleged was committed, and of the said Lady, alleged committer of the same, by way of death, as he might; and so the said deceased Gabriel, upon the hounding, furthsetting, and counsel of the said Johnne Muntgumrie, his brother, and of his causing, command, art, part, assistance, and ratihabitatioun, upon provision, forethought felony, bad hatred, precogitate malice, and by way of Hamesucken, accompanied with the said Robert Kent, his servant, came to the said place of Hesilheid in the morning, upon plain purpose to have slain the said Hew and his said spouse; and finding the yett of the said place open, and coming up the stair thereof, to have ended and performed their foresaid wicked enterprise, entered in the hall of the same, and finding the said Ladye opening a locked bowall (*i.e.*, a small cupboard or opening cut out of the solid wall) and no person therein with her but a lass, the said Robert Kent pulled her down by the hair of the head backward to the ground, and straik and dang her with his neeves and feet, divers many sore violent strokes, wherewith they have bruised and broken her bowels, that she is never able to conceive bairn again, and is, and has been, very evil diseased therewith sin syne; and all the time the said Robert was striking her, the said deceased Gabriell stood with a bended pistol in his hand (*i.e.*, a pistol at full cock) holding the mouth thereof to the door that comes from the proper chamber of the said Hew to the hall, thinking the said Hew should have come in at the hall door to release his said wife when he heard her cry; whereby the said deceased Gabriell might have shot him at the incoming of the door foresaid; and because that through the crying of the said Marioun, the alarm rose within the said place, so that the said deceased Gabriell and Robert perceived it was not time convenient, and was impossible to them to execute their malicious and wicked intent and purpose against the said Hew, whom they intended to have slain; and fearing that his servants within the said place should have convened, and sought a revenge of the foresaid injury done unto his said spouse, passed furth of his said place and locked the tower yett thereof outside behind them, and took the key of the same away with them; and not content therewith, they theftuously stole and away-took a fair black basoun horse (*i.e.*, probably the same as *bawsonit*, having a forehead marked with white) from the said Hew, furth of his lands of Balgray, the said xx. day of July last bypast; whereupon they rode to the said place of Thirdpart where they were received in their foresaid theftuous deeds by the said Johnne Muntgumrie, with plain ratihabitation and maintenance of all their wicked enterprise and executions thereof; and yet, the

said persons, not content with the shameful offences committed by them in manner foresaid, seeing the said Hew, after he had broken the locks of the said tower yett, to follow on horseback, for recovering of his said black horse; and coming to the said place of Thirdpart, wherein he was advertised that they were entered with the same horse, the said Hew, having despatched his two servants, which only he had with him at that time to vissie and see about the said place of Thirdpart, if his horse was carried any further away or not, and he hisself alighting alone at the yett thereof, to see if his said horse had been there; the said Johnne Muntgumrie and the said deceased Gabriell, his brother, having seen a ready occasion and time convenient for them to execute their foresaid cruel intent and wicked enterprise, before connived and procogitate by them, and to defend their shameful and theftuous deeds foresaid, and to possess the gear conquest by them as said is, met the said Hew at the yett of the said place of Thirdpart, with pistols and drawn swords in their hands, and there set upon him, and shamefully, cruelly, and unmercifully, as well before his face as behind his back, invaded him for his slaughter and hurt and wounded him on his fillet (*i.e.*, the fleshy part of the thigh, next the loin), behind his back, and divers other parts of his body, to the great effusion of blood, and left him lying for dead; and had not failed to have bled to death were (it) not (for) the grace of God and good neighbours, that came and carried him home in plaids to his said dwelling-place.

And, for the mair better performance of the said Johnne Muntgumreis' evil will and conceived hatred against the said Hew, seeing by God's grace he might not perform the same of before, he then immediately thereafter received the said Robert Kent in house with him, with the recent bloody hand; and has continually sin syne retained, and retains him in his company and household; to the effect that he may get his foresaid wicked enterprise of the said Hew's slaughter more easily performed; Like as, upon the xxvi. day of August last bye-past, the said Johnne Muntgumrie of Scottistoun, accompanied with the said Robert Kent and Walter Muntgumrie, his brother, in warlike array, with jacks, pistols, swords, bucklers, steelbonnets, and other weapons, invasive, came by way of Hamesucken to the lands of Nethirtoun of Hesiltoun, and searched and sought him thereat for his slaughter; and because they could not apprehend him thereat, they apprehended James Paterson, his servant, keeping his horse thereupon, and chased him furth of the said lands to the said Hew's place of Hesilheid, to the effect that in case he had come furth of the same for his relief that they might have bereft him of his life, and therethrough the said Johne Muntgumrie of Scottistoun, Walter Muntgumrie his brother, and Robert Kent, committed open, manifest, and vile oppression upon the said Marioun, and cruel blood-shedding upon the said Hew, upon set purpose, provision, forethought felony, precogitate malice, and Hamesucken; and also theft and reset thereof, in manner above written, as the said letters at length bear.

Pursuers—Marioun Sempill, Ladye Hasilheid; Mr Robert Creytoune, advocate. Prelocutors in pursuit of the said Robert for the whole crimes libelled, Mr Robert Muntgumrie, captain; the Laird of Braidstane. Prelocutor in pursuit of the whole crimes libelled, except the theft, Johnne Sempill of Beltreis. Prelocutors in defence of the said Robert for the whole crimes, except the theft libelled, Johnne Muntgumrie of Scottistoun, Edward Maxwell of Tynwall, Mr Alex. Skene, Gabriell Sempill, younger of Cathcart.

The said prelocutors, in defence of the said Robert Kent, asked instruments that they will not insist on his defence for the theft libelled, but for the remanent crimes only.

The said Robert Kent took instruments that Marioun Sempill, Ladye Hesilheid, Captain Robert Muntgumrie, and the Laird of Braidstane insist in his pursuit of the theft and others libelled.

Assize upon Robert Kent.—Johnne Rois of Haning, Thomas Stewart of Gaustoun, William Kneland of that Ilk, Neill Muntgumrie of Langschaw, Hew Muntgumrie of Auchinhude, Alexander Wilsoun in Treerne, James Dunlop of that Ilk, Johne Dunlop of Hapland, William Dik in Gymishill, Johne Steill, younger, in Monyakeris, Charles Mowat of Busbie, Johnne Somervell of Cambusnethene, John Schaw of Grenok, the Lard of Rais-Logane, Thomas Stevinstoun in Treerne.

And immediately after the choosing, swearing, and admitting of the said persons of Assyis, and accusing of the said Robert Kent, by the letters of dittay foresaid, in their presence; the said Mr Alexander Skene, prelocutor foresaid, in name of the said Robert, denied simpliciter the said dittay and libel, as it is conceived; specially the theftuous stealing and away-taking of a black basoun horse from the said Hew Muntgumrie of Hesilheid, furth of his lands of Balgray; but that the said Robert only fled away thereupon to the place of Thirdpart, for fear and safety of his life;

and therefore, the said Robert Creychtoun, advocate, in respect of the said confession and notoriety of the cause, protests, if the said persons of Assyis acquit the said Robert Kent of the dittay foresaid for wilfull error.

VERDICT.—The said persons of Assyis, for the most part, found and delivered the said Robert Kent to be acquit and innocent of the crimes above written, contained in the said letters of dittay; like as, they declared in judgment, in the said Court, and in presence of the said Justice Depute, by the mouth and speaking of Johnne Somervell of Cambusnethane, chancellor of the said Assyis.—Whereupon, the said Robert Kent asked instruments; and protested for his testimonial, and the pains contained in the Acts of Parliament upon the pursuers foresaid.

Continued against the other parties to the Justice-aire of Renfrew, the third day, or sooner, upon fifteen days' premonition.

SLAUGHTER.

December 1, 1576.—PATRIK BRUNTSCHEILLIS in Hesilheid, Andro Giffing in Nethir Hesilheid, and James Reid, pantryman to the Lard of Hesilheid.

Dilaitit of art and part of the cruel Slaughter of the deceased Gabriell Muntgumrie, brother to Johne Muntgumrie of Scottistoun; committed in the month of July last bye-past; upon set purpose, provision, and forethought felony.

The said persons asked instruments that Johne Muntgumrie of Scottistoun, and Walter Muntgumrie, his brother (brother to the said deceased Hew), being enquired by the Justice Depute, if he would insist in pursuit of the said persons for the said Slaughter, declared that they would pass from the pursuit of the same; and sic-lyke dissented to any continuation of the said matter, offering themselves presently to the knowledge of an Assyis therefor.

Continued to the Justice-aire of Renfew, the third day, or sooner, upon fifteen days' premonition.

CONVOCATION OF LIEGES—USING OF CULVERINGS, &C.

January 29, 1577.—JOHN MUNTGUMRIE of Scottistoun, Gabriel Sempill, younger of Cathcat, &c.

Adam Hall of Foulbar becomes pledge for the entry of Johne Muntgumrie of Scottistoun; and the said Johnne, Adam Hall of Foulbar, and Andrew, Master of Sempill, become pledges, jointly and severally, to enter Gabriel Sempill, younger of Cathcart, Robert Sempill of Craigbait, Gabriel Sempill his brother, James and Walter Muntgumrie, brothers of the Laird of Scottistoun, Bartholomew Muntgumrie, uncle of the said Laird, Johne Andirsoun in Walkmylne of Partik, and Robert Kent, servant to the said Laird, before the Justice or his Deputies, on the third day of the next Justice-aire of Renfrew and Lanark respectively, or wherever and whensoever it may please his Majesty, on premonition of fifteen days, to underly the law for convocation of the lieges, arrayed for war, against the tenor of the Acts of Parliament, and umbesetting the highway to Hew Muntgumrie of Hesilheid, and for using of culverings, pistols, committed in the month of December last, &c.

WILFUL ERROR IN ASSISE.

January 31, 1577.—JOHN SCHAW of Grenok, James Dunlop of that Ilk, and thirteen others.

Dilatit of the wilful and manifest error, committed in the acquitting of Robert Kent, servant to Johnne Muntgumrie of Scottistoun, of diverse crimes contained in the letters purchased against him by Hew Muntgumrie of Hesilheid.

PURSUERS—Mr David Borthwik, Mr Robert Creychtoun, advocates. PROLOCUTOR in defence, Mr Edmund Hay, advocate.

Alleges the said Mr Edmund for the pannell, accepted the summons *in quantum*, not granting any part of the same; that nothing ought now to be put to the knowledge of this second inquest, but only the accusing of this Robert Kent of the alleged theftuous stealing of a horse from Hew Muntgumrie of Hesilheid, in so far as there is no reason in all the whole summons alleging or concluding against the Inquest for accusing of him of any other point contained in the said summons; also accepts the summons, in so far as is confessed in the same that the gentlewoman was only in the house herself (*i.e.*, alone), the time of the committing of the said deed.—To the which answered the Advocates that the said allegations should be repelled, in respect of the summons as it is libelled bearing the confession of the party and notoriety of the cause; and sic-lyke (*loco quo*), &c.

The persons on pannell, notwithstanding the said allegation, ask instruments that they offer themselves at this day to the knowledge of a condign Assyis, dissenting to any continuation of the said matter.

The Justice, upon sundry reasonable causes, moving my Lord Regent's grace, ordains the matter to be continued to the third day of the Air, or sooner, upon XV. days' warning; and



ıken of the persons on pannell

G WITH PISTOLETS, &c.

7.—JOHN BLAIR of that Ilk, his brother, Johnne Rois, and l, his servants, Johnne Crawfurd ınne Crawfurd his son, Niniane , Robert Crawfurd in Ryhill, ɔrother to Williame Blair of Blair, Reader at Dalry, and

Capitane Thomas Crawfurd, ɛeigchtoun, advocate, Robert ınd.

ıe Assyise, for the most part, ınce, fylis and convicts William) the Laird of Blair, of shooting following and chasing of Thomas servants for their slaughter, ıt felony. *Item*, fylis the Laird ɔwing and chasing of the said s servants for their slaughter ıt felony. *Item*, fylis Johnne he following and chasing them ɛr upon suddenly.

e which day Loird Rois of . . . . Mure of Cauldwell, conjointly and severally for brother to the Laird of Blair, ıotar, servant to Glengarnock, k ane of them shall enter their within the Castle of Blacknes, ght hours at even, and not furth thereof; aye and until he ɛved, viz., of the said Laird of pain of five thousand pounds; id William Blair, or Johnne of them, under the pain of two s.

FIRE-RAISING.

7.—JOHNNE CRAWFURD of the l Johnne his sons, Patrik Jokie, wfurds, sometime servants to ervell.

ıe treasonable fire-raising and e pertaining to Johnne Boswall ıd other crimes contained in the ıereupon.

ın Boswall of Affleck.

crastinum. Surety Hugone

ıe pannell asked instruments of Auchinlek compearing dis- ıursuit of them; and notwith- stice's command anent the con- same, dissented thereto.

SLAUGHTER.

(Mr Thomas Bannatyne, Justice-Depute.)

November 6, 1578.—WILLIAME STEWART and Harie Stewart, sons to Andro, Lord Ochiltree.

The which day compeared Alexander Mowat, son lawful to the deceased Charlis Mowat of Busbie, who produced our Sovereign lord's letters, duly executed and endorsed, purchased by him and the remaining kin and friends of the deceased Charlis Mowat against William and Harie Stewart, sons to Andrew, Lord Ochiltree, being summoned by virtue thereof to underly the law for the slaughter of the said deceased Charlis; in respect whereof the said Alexander protested for relief of the surety found for reporting of the said letters, to this day next to come; and took instruments of the production of the king's gracious letter and charge, direct to the Justice, and his deputes, for continuation of this court to the third day of the Air or sooner, upon fifteen day's warning, dispensing with the compearance of the said persons in the Court; as the said charge bears, which he protested should be inserted in the process. And in respect the same was purchased by sinister information, made to the King's grace, for keeping of the said malefactors unpunished or accused by the law, who so cruelly had sought the innocent blood of the said deceased Charlis, as also to the hurt of him and other persons in the hindrance of justice; therefore, the said Alexander protested for remeid, at God and the King's grace; and asked instruments of the premises; and that he presently dissented to the continuation made by the Justice and his deputes in this Court; and hereupon took acts in the hands of me, notare public underwritten and scribe of the said Court.

ADMINISTERING POISON TO HER HUSBAND.

(Mr Johnne Grahme, Justice-Depute.)

June 12, 1579.—HELENE COLQUHOUNE, spouse to William Cuninghame of Aket.

Clemant Kincaid in the Coittis, oftimes called to have produced our sovereign lord's letters, duly executed and endorsed, purchased by William Cuninghame of Aket, and Messrs David Borthwick of Lochhill and Creigchtoun of Elick, advocates to our sovereign loird, to take surety of the said Helene that she should compear and underly the law this day and place, for the treasonable ministering of poison to the said William her spouse; committed in October last-was; and not producing the same

was amerciated in the pains contained in the Acts of Parliament.

WITCHCRAFT—SORCERY, &c.

January 14, 1582.—WILLIAME GILMOUR, son to Richard Gilmour in Bonetoune, Pulquhene. Dilaitit of the using of Witchcraft, Sorcery, and Incantation in the months of October and November last bye-past. Continued to the Justice-aire of Air, the third day, or sooner upon fourteen days warning. Surety, Allane Cathcart of Carbistoune.

SLAUGHTER.

(Mr Edward Bruce and Mr William O'iphant, Justices-Deputes.)

July 2, 1584.—George Thomesoun, minister at Innerkip, George Maxwell of Newwerk, Robert Maxwell his servant, Johnne Maxwell in Kulroise, Johnne Moresoune in Park, and Arthur Moresoun there.

Dilatit of art and part of the cruel slaughter of the deceased Robert Muntgumrie of Skelmurelie and of the deceased Williame Muntgumrie, his son and apparent heir; committed in April last-was.

July 3.—Johnne Quhytefurde of that Ilk, Adam Quhytefurde, younger of that Ilk, Thomas Quhytefurde his brother, Robert Muntgumrie of Skelmurelie, Williame Cochrane of that Ilk, Williame Mudye, burgess of Paislay, Robert Sempill, burgess there, James Wilsoun, servant to the Laird of Cochrane, Gilbert Smyth, brother to Andrew, Master of Sempill.

Dilaitit of art and part of the cruel slaughter of the deceased Patrik Maxwell of Stanelie, committed in January last-was.

PRELOCUTORS FOR THE PANNELL. — The Master of Eglingtoune, the Master of Sempill, the Laird of Cauldwall, the Laird of Heissilheid, Mr Johnne Scharp, Mr Johnne Skene, Mr Johnne Prestoune. PURSUERS—James Maxwell of Calderwood, Sir Robert Maxwell of Dinwiddie, the Laird of Craigance, the Laird of Newark, Johnne Maxwell of Nether Pook (Gelis Wallace, The Relict), Maister David M'Gill of Nisbet (King's Advocate for his Highness' interest).

Part of the pannels replegiated to the Regality of Paislay, and the rest continued to the Justice-air of Renfrew, the third day.

The Laird of Quhytefurde alone was put to the knowledge of an Assyise, who, after long reasoning and deliberation had thereof, by the mouth of Robert Lindesay of Dunrod, found and declared the said Johnne Quhytefurde of that Ilk to be clean and acquit of art and part of the said slaughter.

[*Note.*—This and the preceding case, as well as other extracts that follow, deal with incidents in the long and sanguinary feud between the houses of Glencairn and Eglintoun. The Maxwells of Newark, Stainlie, and in Renfrew generally, sided with the Cuninghames, and were actively engaged, as above, in reprisal on the Montgomeries.]

SLAUGHTER.

(Mr William Oliphant, Justice-Depute).

May 20, 1589.—THOMAS, MAISTER OF BOYID, James Boid of the Kippis, Alexander Boyd, baillie of Kilmernock, James Slose of that Ilk, Thomas Roise in Bondland, and Johnne Craufurd in Welstoun.

Dilaitit of the Slaughter of the deceased Johnne Mure in the Wall; committed in the month of August, 1571.

PURSUERS—Johnne Mure, eldest son, Robert Stewart and Michael Stewart, kinsmen of the mother's side. PRELOCUTOR FOR THE PANNELL, Mr John Skene.

The party passed from the pursuit of Johnne Craufurd, whereupon he asked instruments.

Letters of Remission granted by the King in favour of the parties, and caution found for satisfying the parties. Cautioners, Captain Thomas Craufurd of Jurdanehill, Johnne Schaw of Grenok, Williame Mure, apparent of Rowallane, and Thomas, Master of Boyd, bind themselves to relieve the above sureties.

May 20.—ROBERT, LORD BOYD—Robert Boyd of Banhaith, cautioner for the entry of Lord Boyd at the Justice-air of Air, or on warning of fifteen days, for the same slaughter.

ABSTRACT OF RECORDS OF PRIVY COUNCIL.

[NOTE.—There is an unfortunate hiatus in the Records of the High Court of Justiciary, the Books of Adjournal, from October 1591 to May 18, 1596, having been lost. Pitcairn has supplied the wants of these books by copious extracts from the Records of the Privy Council of Scotland. We subjoin those referring to Ayrshire.]

November 19, 1591.—James Earl of Glencairn ordained to be charged to find caution to the extent of twenty thousand pounds within eight days, 'or else within the same space pass and enter his person in ward be-north the water of Erne and about the burgh of Perth, and there remain and keep warde; and on nowise transcend the said bounds, aye and until he be freed and relieved by his Majesty, under the pain of



rebellion.' And if he should fail, to denounce him rebel. On Nov. 24 he is again charged to pass to ward 'for contemptuous remaining at the horne for non-obeying of the Decrete Arbitrall pronounced by his Highness and the Lords of Council and Session, betwixt the said Earl and Dame Annabill Murray, Countess of Mar.' He is likewise charged 'to render and deliver his houses of Kilmarannok, Findlastoun, Stevinstoun, Kilmaweris, and Glencairne to the official executor of the said letters,' under certification. On Dec. 15, he is charged to return a bond for twenty thousand pounds, under the pain of rebellion.

January 26, 1592.—Robert Jamesoun, burgess of Air, ordained to deliver to Sir James Sandielandis of Slamannane, 'Mr Knicht, gentleman of his Highness chalmer,' the sum of 236 crowns of gold, delivered to him by James Campbell his servant, who received the same from Mr George Ker, brother to Mark, Lord Newbottle.

May 2, 1594—Andro, Lord Stewart of Ochiltrie, ordained to be denounced rebel for not appearing to answer 'touching his treasonable attempts, conspired, practised, and put in execution against his Majesty's person and estate.'

July 25, 1594.—A proclamation issued calling the Earls, Barons, &c., within the bounds of Air, Kile, Carrick, and Cunninghame to assemble at Stirling on August 27, 'and from thence to pass forward as they shall be commanded, for resisting and repressing of the treasonable practices and conspiracies of the said unnatural subjects, or pursuit of them, as occasion shall be offered.' The 'unnatural subjects are elsewhere described as TRAITORS, Jesuits, Seminary Priests, Trafficing Papists and their resetters.'

June 18, 1595.—Sundry of his Majesty's subjects in Air, Kyle, Carrik, and Cunninghame, as well as elsewhere, who had furnished the rebels of Ireland with "victuals, weapons, powder, bullets, and other munitions of war," are forbidden to assist, take part, ride, gang, accompany, nor yet furnish or sell any kind of victual,' &c., under the pain of Treason.

December 2, 1595.—Proclamation for assembling the lieges at the towns of Leith . . . . Kirkcudbright, and Air 'well bodin in feir of weir (*i.e.*, well prepared for battle), to repair upon the first advertisement, under the command of the Sheriff of ilk shire, and sic others as the same Sheriff, with advice of the Barons within the bounds particularly above mentioned, shall choose to that effect, to the said towns to join with and supply the foot forces in resisting to the landing of the enemy in these parts; under the tinsale (*i.e*, forfeiture) of lands, goods, and life.'

December 23, 1595.—'Charge against persons under Deadly Feud' to appear before the King and Council at Holyrood house, and 'that they keep their lodgings after their coming, till they be specially sent for,' &c. These are to say, ROBERT, Maister of Eglintoun, and Patrik Houston of that Ilk, to compear personally; the said Maister accompanied with his friends, not exceeding the number of three score persons, and the said Patrik not exceeding the number of xxiv. persons, upon Jan., xv. nexttocum; James Erll of Glencairn and . . . . Cunynghame of Glengarnok upon Jan. xvi.; Hew Campbell of Loudoun, Schereff of Air; . . . Craufurde of Kerse, upon Jan. xxvi., to underly sic order as shall be prescribed touching the removing of the said feuds,' &c. With certification that if they fail 'they shall be repute, holden and pursued with fire and sword, as enemies to God, his Majesty, and to the common weal and quietness of this their native country, with all rigour and extremity.'

January 17, 1596.—James Erll of Glencairne ordained to be denounced rebel, for not appearing before the King and Council 'touching the removing of the feud and controversy standing betwixt him and Robert, Maister of Eglintoun and his friends.'

January 29, 1596.—James Cunynghame, apparent of Glengarnock, ordained to be denounced for not 'compearing personally' before the King and Council 'touching the removing of the feud standing betwixt him and Sir Patrik Houstoun of that Ilk, Knight, and his friends, &c.

February 12, 1596.—On the complaint of the Countess of Eglintoun (Dame Helen Kennedy), Hugh Earl of Eglintoun, only lawful son of the deceased Hugh Earl of Eglintoun, Robert Master of Eglintoun his Tutor, and the kin and friends of the late Earl. 'That where the said deceased Erll being most shamefully and cruelly slain by Johnne Cunynghame of Ross, brother to James Earl of Glencairne, Alexander Cunynghame called of Polquhene, his servant, Alexander Cunynghame of Aikatt, Williame Cunynghame his brother, Patrik Cunynghame in Bordland, Johnne and David Maxwells, brothers to Patrik Maxwell of Newark, and Johnne Ryburne, upon set purpose, provision, and forethought felony, the said complainers pursued them for the same slaughter, criminally, before the Justice and his Deputes; and they taking the crime upon them, absented themselves from trial, and were therefore denounced and registered at the horne; whereat most con-

temptuously they remained divers years thereafter, till now of late, as the said complainers are informed, that the said persons have purchased a Remission or Respite for the said slaughter, whereby they intend to take away the said complainers' lawful pursuit; so that, instead of justice, which they ever looked for, conform to his Majesty's solemn vow and promise made to that effect, they are now moved to lament to his Highness the want of justice, through the said Respite or Remission,' &c. They further state that there has been 'no assyithment nor satisfaction made to the said complainers for the said slaughter, nor Letter of Slanis granted thereupon,' and that therefore, in terms of the Acts of Parliament and Secret Council and 'ane louable practice passed in the lyke case, at the instance of the relict and ten fatherless bairns of the deceased Luk Striuiling of Baldorane, against Thomas Kincaid and Johnne Jak his servant, the Respite or Remission was *ipso facto* null.—Robert Master of Eglintoun having appeared for the complainers and James Earl of Glencairn and William Cunynghame of Caprington for the defenders, the King and Council "remitted this matter to be decided before the Justice or his Deputes, as accordis of the law."

UMBESETTING THE HIGHWAY—HAMESUCKEN—SHOOTING OF HAGBUTS AND PISTOLETS, &c.—MURDER.

February 15, 1597—JOHNNE MURE of Auchindrane and others.

The same day Mathow Dunduff of that Ilk, *alias* Stewart, ofttimes called as cautioner and surety for Johnne Mure of Auchindrane, John Mure, son to Quintene Mure in Carcloy, David Sinclair and Johnne Schaw, servitour to the said Johnne Mure and Patrik Davidsoune, servitour to the said Mathow Dunduff, *alias* Stewart. And sic lyke, the said Johnne Mure of Auchindrane, ofttimes called as cautioner and surety for Alexander Kennedie, son to Hew Kennedie of Craigneill, David Mure, servitour to the Laird of Bargany, John Dunduff, *alias* Stewart, son natural to the said Mathow, to have entered and presented them before our sovereign Lord Justice or his depute this day and place; for coming upon the third day of January last bypast under silence and cloud of night, with convocation of our sovereign lord's lieges bodin (*i.e.*, armed) with hagbuts and pistolets to the town of Mayboll; and after they had stalled their horses at the gudewife of Knockdai's yett, in Mayboll, they conveyed themselves secretly to Thomas Nasmyth's yard in Mayboll, next adjacent to Sir Thomas Kennedeis dwelling house in Mayboll, as place meetest for accomplishing of their cruel, ungodly and barbarous murder and slaughter of the said Sir Thomas Kennedie; where they stood darnit (*i.e.*, concealed) betwixt two hedges awaiting for his slaughter, and to have murdered him by way of Brigancie, Hamesucken, and Umbesetting of his gait, and way of forethought felony, precogitate malice, conspired and devised murder; and they, perceiving the said Sir Thomas Kennedie, with Dame Elizabeth M'Gill, his spouse, Thomas Kennedie, their eldest son, Margaret and Helene Kennedeis, their daughters, coming furth of the said Thomas Nasmyth's dwelling-house, and coming through his yard betwixt the two hedges, kept themselves darnit (*i.e.*, concealed) until the said Sir Thomas was within six ells to them where they lay; who suddenly umbeset the said Sir Thomas, his spouse and bairns, ere he could be aware of them, he dreading no harm nor injury of any person, and specially of the persons above written, they staying with him in apparent favour and friendship, at the least without any profession of feud or upgiving of kindness; and then shot and discharged eight shot of hagbuts and pistols at the said Sir Thomas; and he, being not able to sustain their force and malice at that time, after he had retired himself with his wife and bairns, they pursued them with divers other shots, and cruelly insisted and invaded them for their slaughter; as the marks of the said shots upon the walls, doors, and yetts of the said Thomas Nasmyth's dwelling house and yards may clearly testify. And likewise, after they had discharged their whole hagbuts and pistolets at them, they most cruelly and unmercifully invaded and pursued the said Sir Thomas Kennedie to the Kirk Yard of Mayboill, where they would not have failed to have slain him, if by the provision of God, and darkness of the night, he had not been separate from them and escaped their bloody hands. As at more length is contained in our sovereign lord's letters, raised at the instance of the said Sir Thomas Kennedie of Culzean, and Mr Thomas Hammiltoune of Drumcairn, advocate to our sovereign lord for his highness interest, thereupon; lawful time of day bidden, and not entering them, the said cautioners, respectively, were unlawed for not entering of the said persons, in the pains contained in the Act of Parliament, viz.—the said Mathow Dunduff, *alias* Stewart, was unlawed for non-entry of the said Johnne Mure of Auchindrane in the pain of five hundred marks; and for non-entry of the said Johnne Mure, son to Quintene Mure in Carcloy, David Sinclair, and Thomas Schaw, and Patrik David-



soun, for ilk ane of them, in the pain of one hundred marks; and the said Johnne Mure of Auchindrain was unlawed for non-entry of the said Alexander Kennedie, son to Hew Kennedie, in the pain of two hundred marks, and for non-entry of David Mure and Johnne Dunduff, *alias* Stewart, for each of them, in the pain of one hundred marks. Lyke as, the said principal persons not compearing, were adjudged to be denounced our sovereign lord's rebels and put to his highness horne; and all their moveable goods ordained to be escheat and inbrought to our sovereign lord's use, as fugitives from his highness' laws, for the said crimes.

Eodem die—MATHOW STEWART of Dunduff (*alias* DUNDUFF OF THAT ILK).

Dilatit of coming by way of Brigancie, under silence and cloud of night, to Thomas Nasmythis yard in Mayboill, and umbesetting the high-way to Sir Thomas Kennedie of Culzeane, and shooting of pistolets and hagbuts at him, by way of Hamesucken; committed the third day of Januar last bye-past.

PURSUERS—Sir Thomas Kennedie of Culzean, Mr Thomas Hammiltoune, advocate. PRELOCUTORS for the pannel—The Laird of Craigiehall, viz., Hary Stewart.

The said Hary Stewart takes instruments of the entry of Mathow Stewart, that he shall appear before our sovereign lord's Justice, &c., the sixteenth day of February instant, &c.

February 16—The which day Mathow Stewart, *alias* Dunduff of that Ilk (under protestation that he grants not the libel to be relevant anent the hamesucken and forethought felony, whereof none of them is qualified, but are only mentioned by way of narration, to induce the crime whereupon the Dittay is resolved, viz., the convocation, and shooting of pistolets, and that he grants not the shooting, wearing or having of hagbuts or pistolets upon himself that night); he is content to submit himself to his Majesty's will anent the crime of Convocation, and being present with the persons contained in the summons, some of them being his servants, having and shooting of pistolets at Sir Thomas Kennedie of Culzean that night; and craves my lord Justice to report to his Majesty and his Council, and receive answer thereupon.

The advocate produced the King's warrant, whereof the tenour follows.

REX,

MR THOMAS HAMMILTOUNE of Drumcairn our advocate. We greet you well. It is our will, and We command you that incontinent after the sight hereof ye insist in pursuit of Mathow Dunduff of that Ilk, *alias* Stewart, dilatit of certain crimes contained in our other letters, raised at the instance of Sir Thomas Kennedie of Culzeane, and at your instance for our interest, which was continued to this day, that aye and until the said Mathow either be come in our will, or be convict of the said crimes by an Assyis. And these presents shall be to you a sufficient warrant. Subscribed with our hand at Halyruidhous, the xvi. day of February, 1597.

(Sic subscribitur). JAMES R.

In respect whereof, and of the command given by his Highness in presence of my Lord Justice, craves process, dissenting from all continuation; and offers the relevancy of the libel in all the points thereof, as the same is concieved, if any particular allegations were made against the same.

The Justice, with advice of the Noblemen present, continues the matter in the same state till the morne. Surety, Lord Craighall, under the pain of three thousand pounds.

February 17.—The which day Mathow Stewart of Dunduff, being entered on pannell, pursued by virtue of our sovereign lord's letters, purchased at the instance of Sir Thomas Kennedie of Culzeane and Mr Thomas Hammiltoun of Drumcarne, advocate to our sovereign lord, they compearing personally and insisting in his pursuit of the crimes after specified; that is to say:

[NOTE.—Here follows the Dittay against the Laird of Dunduff, which, in the main, is a recital of the facts as contained in the indictment already given. Dunduff is accused of having pre-arranged the intended crime, he having "directed Alexander Kennedie, son to Hew Kennedie of Craigneill, to await upon him to learn his dyett; like as, the said Alexander was familiar with the said Sir Thomas at his house, and that same day upon the fields, and at Corsoragwell, by taking of his good night, and taking off his hat, according to his wonted familiarity with him of before; and so, they having understood by the said Alexander Kennedie that the said Sir Thomas was to sup that night in Thomas Nasmythis' dwelling house in Mayboill, lying within the Baillierie of Carrik and Scherefdome of Air, where he did remain and repair; they, with convocation of our Sovereign Lord's lieges to the number of ten persons or thereby, &c. . . . he being art and part thereof, demeriting thereby most high and worthy punishment; to the great contempt of our sovereign lord's authority and laws of this realm, and to the

most barbarous example of others to commit the like.]

And being inquired whether he would abide the Trial of an Assyse or come in his Majesty's will for the said crimes, the said Mathow declared that he had neither hagbut nor pistolet the night above written, contained in the libel, neither yet shot any; notwithstanding thereof he comes in his Majesty's will for the said crimes contained in the letters; whereupon the said Mr Thomas Hammiltoune of Drumcarne, advocate, asked instruments. And sic lyke, the said Mathow Stewart of Dunduff comes in the Erll of Cassillis, and Sir Thomas Kennedie of Culzeane's will for the crimes above written, contained in our sovereign lord's letters, raised at the instance of the said Sir Thomas Kennedie and Mr Thomas Hammiltoun; his life and lands being excepted; and acted and obliged himself to underly their judgment, what ever they could decerne thereanent; whereupon the said Sir Thomas Kennedie of Culzeane asked instruments.

Wardit in the Castell of Edinburghe.

February 28.—The which day Mathow Stewart of Dunduff being presented on pannell to hear and see our sovereign lord's will declared, anent the crimes whereof he be come in will, in a Court of Justiciarie, holden in the Tolbuith of Edinburghe, the xvii. day of Februar instant. The said Justice Depute produced his Majesty's letter, directed to him, for the declaration of his Highness' will, which he desired to be read in judgment to the said Mathow Stewart of Dunduff, and the same being read, to be inserted and registered in process; whereof the tenour follows:—

Declaration of the King's Will.

James, by the grace of God, King of Scottis, to our Justice-General and your Deputes, greeting. Forasmuch as in a Justice Court, holden in the Tolbuith of our burghe of Edinburghe, upon the seventeenth day of February one thousand five hundred four score and seventeen years, by our lovite Mr Williame Haert of Lewielands, Justice Depute, to our right trusty cousin and councillor Archibald Erll of Ergyll, Lord Campbell and Lorn, our Justice General, Mathow Stewart of Dunduff being accused by Sir Thomas Kennedie of Culzeane, Knight, and Mr Thomas Hammiltoun of Drumcarne, our advocate, that the said Mathow and his complices, &c. . . . We, by these our letters, publish and declare our will towards the said Mathow Stewart of Dunduff in manner following. That is to say: Forasmuch as We have seen and considered the declaration of the will of our right trusty cousin Johnne Erll of Cassillis, and of the said Sir Thomas Kennedie, against whom the said wicked enterprise was devised, bearing in effect, that their will is that the said Mathow Stewart of Dunduff shall be banished this our realm of Scotland, and also the realms of Ireland and England, and all Isles, lands and dominions pertaining to any of the said realms, and that during the wills of our said right trusty cousin and councillor, and of the said Sir Thomas Kennedie, and aye and until they both conjunctly and in one voice declare the contrary, will be writ; and that he shall depart to what realm or country he pleases (except as before excepted) betwixt the date hereof and the fifteenth day of May nextocum, and shall remain furth of the said realms of Scotland, Ireland, England, and all Isles, lands and dominions appertaining to any of the said realms; and shall not return within our realm without Licence of our said right trusty cousin Johnne Erll of Cassillis and the said Sir Thomas Kennedie, conjunctly, had and obtained thereto in Writing; And also, unto the time of his departing furth of our realm to the places where he is banished, he shall nowise repair within the town of Mayboill, nor a mile about, nor no other part where our said right trusty cousin and the said Sir Thomas shall happen to be, under the pain of five thousand marks money of our realm, to be paid to the said Sir Thomas, his heirs and assignees, in case of contravention of any part of the premises: And the said pain to be applied to the use, utility, and profit, of the said Sir Thomas, his heirs, executors and assignees respectively: Which declaration of theirs will we ratify, approve and affirm in all points, heads and circumstances, and by these presents decern and ordain the same as a part of our will, to be really and with effect fulfilled and obeyed: And that it shall not be lawful to the said Mathow Stewart of Dunduff to contravene the same directly or indirectly, for whatsoever cause or occasion, by any declaration to be made by us hereafter, or any licence or dispensation to be granted in hurt or prejudice of these presents. And further, We will and declare that the said Mathow Stewart of Dunduff shall consent and pay to our Treasurer in our name the sum of one thousand marks money of this realm, together with the unlaw and amerciaments, in the which he stands cautioner for certain his complices, partakers of the said crime. Therefore it is our will, and We require you that incontinent after the sight hereof, ye cause the said Mathow Stewart of Dunduff to be presented in a Justice Court before you, and to make publication of



our will, as said is, and to cause doom to be pronounced against him, conform thereto; and that sufficient cautioners and sureties be found by the said Mathow Stewart, for fulfilling and obeying thereof: And that he be re-entered in ward within our Castell of Edinburghe, and that he remain in sure firmance therein, aye and until the said caution and surety be found to the effect foresaid: As ye will answer to us thereupon. The which to do, We commit to you our full power, by these our present Letters. Given under our signet and subscribed with our hand. At Halyruidhous, the last day of Februar, and of our reign the xxxi. year, 1597.

(Sic Subscribitur) JAMES R.

A ELPHINSTOUNE.

According to the which Letter and his Majesty's Will declared therein, the said Justice-depute by the mouth of Williame Liddle, dempstar of the said Court, pronounced doom against the said Mathow Stewart of Dunduff, and published the whole premises to him; and decerned and ordained the said Mathow to fulfil, obtemper, (*i.e.* comply with) and obey the same in all points, and to find sufficient caution and surety for obedience thereof; and delivered him to James Nisbet, one of the Baillies of Edinburghe, to be re-entered again in ward within the Castell of Edinburghe, to remain in sure firmance therein, aye and till he find sufficient caution and surety to the effect foresaid, conform to his Majesty's will above rehearsed. Whereupon the said Sir Thomas Kennedie of Culzean asked acts and instruments,

March 1.—At a Court held this day, a document, declaring the Will of the Earl of Cassillis, and Sir Thomas Kennedie, was produced, dated at Edinburgh the penult day of February 1597, and ordained to be registered in the books of adjournal. It is precisely in the terms rehearsed in the Declaration of the King's will. Upon the publishing and declaration of the which Will, Mr Alex. King, advocate, in name of said Erll of Cassillis, Lord Kennedy, &c., and the said Sir Thomas Kennedie of Culzean for himself, asked acts and instruments.

ABIDING FROM THE EARL OF ANGUS' RAID AT DUMFRIES.

(Mr William Haert and Mr Robert Murray, Justice-Deputes.)

February 21, 1600.—GEORGE CAMPBELL of Cesnok, John Schaw of Sornbeg, George Lokart of Bar, Mr Matho Rose of Haning, Johnne Wallace of Carnell, David Blair of Edentoun, Williame Dunbar of Enterkyn, David Foullertoun of Corsbie, Edward Wallace of Seweltoune, Hary Stewart of Barskimming, Williame Crawford of Lochnoreis, Hew Cuninghame of Laigland, Allane Lord Cathcart, Johnne Cathcart of Cair toune, Johnne Dalrumpill of Stair, Johnne Campbell of Shankistoune, Bernard Farguesson of Kilcairren, Hew Kennedy of Girvanmains, Johnne Corry of Kelwod, Hugh Kennedy of Bennene, Walter Muir of Cloncaird, Thomas Kennedy of Ardmillane, Walter Kennedy of Knockdone, Johnne Kennedy of Blaquhane, Matho Stewart of Dunduff, Johne Mure of Auchindrane, Mr Lambert Kennedy of Kirkmichell, Johnne Davidsoun of Pennyglene, Fargus Kennedy of Knockda, Johnne M'Alexander of Dalreoch, Gylbert Kennedy of Bargany.

Dilatit for abiding from the Lieutenant's Raid of Dumfries, appointed by Archibald, Erll of Angus, to have convened thereat.

Compeared Johne Halyday, advocate, and produced the warrant underwritten, for Girvanmanis (Hew Kennedy), and alleged that the Justice could not unlaw his cautioner, nor adjudge himself to the horn.

REX,

TREASURER, Advocate, Justice, Justice Clerk, with your deputes, We greet you well. Understanding that our right trusty cousin and councillor, Andro Lord Ochiltrie, his kin, friends, men, tenants, servants and dependents were, upon the respect of James Dowglas of Torthorwald, being in company of our right trusty cousin the Erll of Angus, our Lieutenant for the time, exempted from his jurisdiction and obedience of his Proclamations published for convening our subjects within the bounds of his Lieutenancy; and that notwithstanding ye, our said Treasurer and Advocate, have raised our other letters at your instance, and amongst others have caused charge Hary Stewart of Barskymming, and (Hew) Kennedy of Girvanmanis, two special kinsmen, friends to our said cousin the Lord Ochiltrie, to compear before you our Justice and your deputes, upon the xxi day of Februar instant, to underly our laws within the Tolbuith of Edinburgh for alleged non-obedience of our proclamation charging subjects within the bounds of Kyle, Carrik, and Cuninghame to meet our said Lieutenant at Dumfries upon the . . . . day of . . . . . last byepast, for the furtherance and advancement of our service at our West Border. It is therefore our will, and we command you, our said Treasurer and Advocate, that, upon the sight hereof, ye pass from the

pursuit of the said Hary and (Hew) for the said cause, and delete their names furth of the criminal summonds intended at your instance against them. And likewise, that ye, our Justice and Justice Clark, dispense with their non-compearance of the said persons before you at the said diet; and on nowise unlaw or proceed against them or their cautioners for their non-compearance at the same diet, notwithstanding of any other command given, or to be given, to you to the contrary; as ye and ilk ane of you will be answerable to us upon your office and obedience. Whereanent these presents shall be your warrand. Subscribed with our hand at Halyruidhous, the . . . . day of Februar, 1600.

(Sic Subscribitur) JAMES R.
MONTROSE CANCELLARIUS.
Lennox.
R. Cokburne.
Jo. Prestoune.
Fyvie.

The said John Halyday produced a Letter subscribed by the King and Council, discharging the Justice of all proceedings against the Laird of Caprintoune, &c.

"We understanding that our lovite Williame Cuninghame of Caprintoune and Daniell Cuninghame of Dalbeyth, being charged by virtue of Proclamation to have met our right trusty cousin, Williame Erll of Angus, our Lieutenant and Warden of our West Marches, at Dumfreis, or such other par's contained in our said Proclamation, for pursuit of the disobedient persons within our said Wardanrie, in the month of Februar, 1598 years: And that for obedience thereof and command of our said Proclamation they addressed themselves in warlike manner wit their friends and servants to our said raid; and James Dowglas of Torthorell, being our rebel and lying at our horn for our slaughter of our deceased cousin James Stewart of Newtoune, and their near kinsmen, being then in company at the said raid with our said Lieutenant; so that the said Williame Cwninghame of Caprintoune, George Campbell of Cesnok, nor the said Daniell Cwninghame, could not goodly remain at our said raid (the said James Dowglas being in their company); Whereupon they having then minded themselves unto us, We, for eschewing of greater inconvenience, then faithfully promised, in *verbo principis*, and gave licence to them, their friends and servants, to pass home from our said Raid, and that they should thereafter, at no time address themselves to any raid with our said Lieutenant, (the said James Dowglas being in company with him) but that they should remain at home and incur no skaith nor danger therethrough. And also, that the said Williame, George, and Daniell, being likewise charged again to have met with our said Lieutenant at our said burgh of Dumfreise, upon the xxii. day of September lastbypast (with whom the said James Dowglas was then in company), so that they might not address themselves thereto: Therefore, and according to our said promise, We have freely Remitted, and by these presents Remit the said William Cwninghame, George Campbell, and Daniell Cwninghame, their kin, friends and servants, of all offence, crime and pains committed by them for abiding from the said raid, or any of them: Discharging, herefore, our Treasurer, Advocate, Justice, Justice-Deputes and other officers whatsoever, of all calling, attaching, arresting, poinding, unlawing, troubling, or intromitting with the said persons, their friends and servants, or any of them, for abiding from the said raids or any of them, and of their offices in that part for ever; notwithstanding any letters, proclamations, and charges direct thereanent. Whereanent, and whole pains contained therein, We have dispensed, and dispense by these presents. Subscribed with our hand at Halyruidhous, the xvi. day of Februar, 1600.

(Sic subscribitur). JAMES R.
LENOX.
MONTROISE.
CASSILLIS.
UCHILTRIE.
FYVIE.
BLANTYRE, Secretarias."

(NOTE BY PITCAIRN—This letter affords a striking illustration of the insecure and disturbed state of the country, and the weakness of Government. Douglas of Torthorwald, residing so near the Borders, seems to have been too powerful a subject to be sued, even for the Slaughter of a Steuart, 'cousin to the King.' Although *at the Horn* for this Slaughter, the Lieutenant scruples not to accept of the assistance of the rebellious subject to restore peace on the Borders, instead of delivering him up to justice for his crimes.)

The Justice continues, to give answer to the King's two letters produced, to the morne.

It is alleged no process against the Laird of Blarquhan in respect of the Lieutenant's Licence produced, to remain from the raid, and that he had twenty-four persons, dependents, at the raid.

"WE, WILLIAME ERLL OF ANGUS, Lord

Dowglas and Abirnethie, Lieutenant to his Majesty over the East, West, and Middle Marches of Scotland anent Ingland, by the tenour hereof give and grant Licence and liberty to the right honourable John Kennedie of Blaquhane, elder, to remain and abide at hame from our Raid and Proclamation, which is proclaimed by us to convene at Dumfreis the xxi. day of this instant of September, and thereafter to pass forward with us towards the Borders, and there remain, with xx. days' provision, according to our Proclamation: which We, by this present, permit and grant this our Licence to the said John Kennedie to remain and bide at home from our said Raid and Proclamation: And that in respect of his present Disease: By this present, subscribed with our hand, at Dumfreis the xviii. day of this instant of September, one thousand, five hundred, four score and nineteen years: before these witnesses, Williame Bannatyne of Corhouse, Williame Cwninghame, tutor of Bonytoune.

(Sic subscribitur.) W. ANGUS, Lieut."

It is alleged by Matho Roise of Haning, that he was not subject to the Proclamation, because he dwelt the time of the Proclamation, and a year before, and sensyne in Glasgow; and he has not a house in Kyle,—The Advocate alleges the contrary: In respect of the summons, he should be put to an Assyse and they could cognosce thereupon.

It is alleged for Bernard Ferguesoun that he is past the age of the Proclamation; which allegation was admitted by the Justice, and he discharged and put away.

It is alleged for the Laird of Seweltown that he has neither land nor heritage; and therefore not subject to the Proclamation.—The Advocate alleges that he should pass to an Assyse.

The Pannel comes in (the King's) Will; except so many as produced the King's Warrand.

February 22.—The which day compeared Sir Hew Campbell of Terrinzeane, Knight, and produced our sovereign lord's Will; and desired it to be insert and registered, &c.

The King's Will for the Barons of Kyle and Carrik.

REX.

JUSTICE, Justice Clerk, and your deputes. We greet you well. Forasmuch as the persons underwritten—they are to say—Johnne Schaw of Sornebeg, &c., become lately in our Will for their remaining and biding at home from the Host and Raid proclaimed, and appointed to have met with our Lieutenant in Dumfries, upon the . . . . day of September last. Therefore we have declared our Will as follows, to wit: That we have Renounced and discharged, and by these presents, renounce, and discarge all action and cause, criminal and civil which We had, have, or any wise may have, move, or pursue, against the said persons for the cause foresaid; and Remit and forgive them freely for ever; And Ordain this our declaration of our Will to be also effectual for their Surety in time coming, as if they had particular Remissions thereupon, under our great seal. Our Will is, therefore, and We command you, to pronounce and deliver this our Will judicially: and cause these presents be acted and registered in our books of Adjournal; as also, that we delete furth of our said books, the Act whereby Hew Kennedy in Balloch was unlawed for nonentry of Walter Kennedy of Knockda, minor, before you for this same cause; as ye will answer to us thereupon: Whereanent these presents shall be unto you a Warrant, Subscribed with our hand, at Halyruidhous, the xxii day of Februar, 1600.

(Sic Subscribitur) JAMES R.

Which the Justice caused publish Judicially, and declared to be our sovereign lord's Will, as is above written; Whereupon the persons on pannell present for the time asked acts and instruments.—The Justice admitted the Letters produced, &c.

SLAUGHTER.

(Mr William Hairt, Justice-Depute.)

March 4, 1600.—WILLIAME STEWART, brother (german) to the Lord Ochiltre, and Williame Stewart, son natural to Sir Williame Stewart of Carstairis, Knight.

Mawise Aikman, the relict of the deceased Robert Catheart, (Writer in Edinburghe) produced our sovereign lord's letters duly executed and endorsed, purchased by herself with the bairns and kin and friends of the said deceased Robert, for charging of Walter Mure of Cloncaird, as cautioner and surety for Williame Stewart, brother to the Lord Ochiltre, and Williame Stewart, son natural to Sir William Stewart of Carstairis, Knight, this day, &c., to underly the law for the slaughter of the said deceased Robert, (committed the third day of June, 1590: whereupon she asked instruments, and protested for relief of Allane Catheart of Drumgowan, Cautioner for reporting of the said Letters unto this day.

The Justice, (in obedience to a Warrand from the King) continues this diet to the morne, the fifth day of March instant.

March 5.—Continues the matter to the xxix day of May.—Williame Stewart of Seytoune,

becomes pledge and surety that they shall compear, &c.

May 29.—The persons on pannell take instruments of their compearance, and protest for relief of their caution; and also, in respect that no party compear to pursue them, produced the Extract of our sovereign lord's Remission.

WEARING OF PISTOLETS, &C.—REMISSION ON PAYMENT OF FINE.

July 1, 1600.—GEORGE SCHAW of Glenmure. Being entered on pannell as he that was lawfully summoned to compear before the Justice or his deputes, to hear his highness' will declared against the bearing and wearing of pistolets.—Compeared likewise Andro Lord Stewart of Ochiltrie, and produced a Precept direct from his Majesty, &c.

REX

JUSTICE, Justice-Clark and your deputes, We greet you well. Forasmuch as George Schaw of Glenmure be come in our will, in a Court of Justiciarie, holden in the Tolbuith of Edinburgh, the xvii. day of May lastbypast, for bearing, wearing, and shooting with hagbuts and pistolets and hurting of Charlis Campbell of Horsecleuch therewith; as an Act made thereupon bears; since the which day, the said George has paid and delivered to us the sum of five hundred marks in full satisfaction of our will for the said crime, therefor; And for declaration of our said will, wit ye, that We have Remitted, and by these presents Remit, the said George Schaw for the said crime, and renounce and discharge all action, trial (criminal) and civil, that we, our Treasurer or Advocate may have against the said George Schaw for the same crime; Discharging our Treasurer and Advocate of all calling, troubling, or pursuing of him therefor, in time coming. And this We pronounce to be our will; and cause these presents to be inserted and registered in our books of Adjournal, *ad perpetuam rei memoriam*; Whereanent these presents shall be your warrand. Subscribed with our hand, at Halyruidhous, the first day of July 1600 years.

(Sic Subscribitur) JAMES REX.

Which Precept being read and produced in judgment, the Justice authorised the same to have full effect to the said George Schaw for the said crime, conform to the tenour thereof in all points. Whereupon the said George asked acts and instruments.

ABIDING FROM THE RAID OF DUMFREIS.

(Mr Williame Haert, Justice-Depute.)

July 2, 3 & 4, 1600.—JOHNE ROSS of Drumgrange, George Logan of that Ilk, James Boiswell, feuar of Auchinlek, Johne Boiswell of Duntrine-zemen, Robert Mure of Knockmarloch, Robert Wallace of Holmestoune, Hew Wallace of Boigheid, Wm. Cuninghame of Polquharne. George Schaw of Glenmure, and Williame Wallace of Lytill Cesnok.

Dilatit for abiding from the Raid of Dumfreis, ordained to have convened with Archibald Erll of Angus, Lieutenant, in September lastwas.

(A variety of procedure takes place in these, and some other similar cases, but not of sufficient importance to be inserted at length. Some of the parties are fined, others discharged, &c. At a later date George Kennedie of Glenmuk is fined in a hundred pounds for abiding from the Raid.)

HAMESUCKEN—BRIGANCY—OPPRESSION—HORSE-STEALING—FORAYING, &C.

August 1, 1601—Thomas Cuninghame, sword-slipper, servant to Williame Cuninghame, the Laird of Tourlandis.

Dilatit of certain crimes of Theft, and for taking of captive and prisoner Patrik Gemmill.

Dittay againſt the Pannel.

Thomas Cuninghame, sword-slipper, sometime servitour to Williame Vaus, armourar in the Cannogait, being entered on Pannel, dilatit and pursued; Forasmuch as he, accompanied with Alexander and Hew Cuninghames, brother to the Laird of Tourlandis, the deceased Johne Cuninghame, *alias* Potter, Marioune Parker, Isobel Parker, her sister, Williame Spier, servant to the said Alexander, and another boy, lately, in the month of Januar last byepast, under silence and cloud of night, by way of Hamesucken and Brigancie, came to Patrik Gemmill's dwelling-house in Tempilhous, where he, his wife and family was, in sober and quiet manner, taking the night's rest, dreading no evil or harm; and there brake up the door of the said house, entered therein perforce, and took the said Patrik and his wife furth of their beds, bound his wife foot and hand, and cast her into a mickle kist, menaced the said Patrik to deliver to them his silver and gold; and because he refused to do the same, they bound a tether round his neck and hung him up upon a balk (*i.e.*, a beam), where he hung a long space, until the said Thomas for pity cut him down; and thereafter they packed up his whole inside goods and plenishing in sheets and caused the three women convey the same theftuously upon their backs, and thereafter took and apprehended the said Patrik Gemmill captive and prisoner, and convoyed him, being an aged man



of three score of years, in a great storm, by the space of xxviii miles from his own house, till he came to Clyddisholme, where he was relieved by the Bailleis of Lanark: Usurping thereby our sovereign lord's authority; the said Patrik being his highness' free liege; and the said Thomas was art and part of the said crimes. *Item*, for art and part of the coming upon a Sabbath day, ten weeks sin syne or thereby, in time of preaching, accompanied with Williame Cuninghame of Tourlandis, Alexander Cuninghame his brother, the deceased Johne Cuninghame, the potter, and others, servants of the young Laird of Blaquhannis, and others their complices, to the number of fourteen persons or thereby, and running of a foray with the Laird of Cuninghames-heids tennants for the theftuous stealing and reving from them of xii horse and mares, which were sold in the country. *Item*, for art and part of the theftuous stealing and away-taking of two nags, one soir (*i.e.*, sorrel) and another brown, pertaining to Thomas Bigger in Byres, furth of the lands of Warreikhill, committed in June last was. *Item*, for common theft, common reset of theft, &c.

VERDICT—The Assyis, by the mouth of Johne Farguesoun of the Yle, Chancellor, found, pronounced, and declared the said Thomas Cuninghame to be found culpable and convicted of the whole points of the dittay above written, and crimes therein contained.

SENTENCE—To be taken to a gibbet, upon the Castell-hill of Edinburgh, and thereupon to be hanged till he be dead; and all his moveable goods to be escheat, &c.

TREASON—KEEPING THE HOUSE OF CUNINGHAME-HEAD AGAINST THE KING'S COMMISSIONERS.

(Mr William Hairt, Justice-Depute.)

(ASSESSORS—Lords Halyruidhous, Dunkeld, and Fentonbarns).

December 15, 1601—WILLIAME CUNINGHAME of Tourlandis. Dilatit, accused, and pursued by Mr Thomas Hammiltoune of Drumcarne, Advocate to our sovereign lord, of the crimes following, contained in dittay produced by the said Advocate.

Dittay against the Pannel.

Williame Cuninghame of Tourlandis, ye are indicted and accused, forasmuch as Alexander Cuninghame, your brother, and certain his complices, hired and conduced suddartis (*i.e.*, waged, or stipendiary soldiers) having in the month of March the year of God one thousand six hundred and one years, taken the Hous of Cuninghame-heid, and being charged by virtue of our sovereign lord's letters to have rendered the same within . . . . . ., under the pain of Treason: Nevertheless, it is of verity that ye, within forty-eight hours after the taking of the said place, and after the charge given for rendering thereof under the pain of Treason, conveyed yourself and entered within the said place of Cuninghame-heid, and treasonably assisted the said Alexander Cuninghame, your brother, in keeping of the said house against the Lairds of Duntraith and Urchill, his Majesty's Commissioners, who were asseiging the said place, and that by the space of xxiv days after your entry within the same; during the which time ye and your complices treasonably shot out of the said place divers hagbuts at the said Commissioners and their assisters; committing thereby open and manifest Treason and incurring the tinsall (*i.e.*, loss) of life, lands, and goods; which ought, and should be execute against you with all rigour. To the token (or testimony) that ye are guilty of the said crime, ye have confessed the same by your Deposition. *Item*, ye are indited and accused, forasmuch as ye, accompanied with Alexander Cuninghame, your brother, and others your complices, being bodin in feir of weir (*i.e.*, armed for battle) with secreitis, steel-bonnets, dags and pistolets, prohibited to be borne, worn, used, or shot with, by our sovereign lord's Acts of Parliament, lately, in the month of September, or thereby, the year of God one thousand six hundred and ninety six years, having conceived a deadly feud, rancour, and malice, against the deceased James Stewinsoune, in the Myltoune of Robertoune, came to the lands of the Myltoune of Robertoune, where the said deceased James was in sober and quiet manner, doing his lawful affairs and business, dreading no evil, harm, injury, or pursuit of any persons, but to have lived under God's peace and our sovereign lord's; and there, with your weapons foresaid, most shamefully, cruelly, and unmercifully slew the said deceased James; and ye were art and part of the said cruel Slaughter; committed upon said purpose and provision, and forethought felony. To the token that ye are art and part of the said Slaughter of the said deceased James Stewinsoune, ye were, upon the xxii. day of Januar, one thousand six hundred and ninety seven years, denounced rebel and put to the horne for not compearing before the Justice or his Deputes, in the tolbuith of Edinburgh, the xxiv. day of November, the year of God foresaid, to have underlain the law for art and part of the Slaughter foresaid; at the which horne

ye have remained continually sin syne, and as yet remain; as the Letters of Hoirning, produced herewith, bear.

PURSUER — Mr Thomas Hammiltoune of Drumcarne, Advocate to our sovereign lord.

PRELOCUTORS FOR THE PANNELL—Mr William Oliphant, Mr Alexander King, Mr Johne Russell, the Laird of Glengarnock, the Laird of Reidhall, the Laird of Caprintoune.

The Prelocutors produced a warrand of the Lords (of Council and Session) commanding them to compear in defence of the Laird of Tourlandis, now entered on pannell; which warrand is subscribed by the Chancellar, *in praesentia dominorum*.—The pannell takes instruments, that the Justice declares that Sir Johne Cokburne of Ormistoun, Justice-clerk, shall not be judge nor assessor, nor yet Justice-clark in this matter. Alleges that Sir George Home, Treasurer, cannot be Assessor, because he may win and tyne (*i.e.*, lose) in the cause, in case of conviction. The Advocate answers that the allegations ought to be repelled in respect he is not a party. The said Sir George Home declared he would not vote in that matter. The Advocate takes instruments of the admitting of my Lords of Halyruidhous, Dumkerd (*i.e.*, Bishop of Dunkeld) and Fentounbarnes to be assessors in this cause.

[NOTES BY PITCAIRN.—The production of a warrand by the Prelocutors was usual, especially in cases of Treason, in order to screen counsel from the consequences of defending one who must be inferred to have been most obnoxious to the King. A Supplication was, in the first instance, presented to the Lords of Council and Session, by the pannell, praying them to name 'prelocutors' for the defence, and suggesting various names. The prayer was generally granted, as a matter of course. 'Declinator' of the Judge was competent, on the ground of relationship, or that he had a pecuniary or other interest in the case.]

The pannell alleges that he should be cited upon forty days' warning for the alleged Treason of keeping of the house. The Advocate answers that it has been the inviolable practice when any is tane (*i.e.*, apprehended) for Treason, to put him to an Assyis for the said crime of Treason, without citation.

The Justice repells the allegations made by the pannell.

It is alleged that the dittay is not relevant in respect of the generality thereof, not condescending at whose instance the charge was given to render the place, whom to, or *ex qua causa*. The Advocate alleges that it ought to be repelled in respect of the dittay.—Further, the dittay is nowise relevant, because I was not charged, and no intimation was made to me of the charge, nor any qualification of the dittay of my knowledge. The Advocate answers it ought to be repelled in respect of the dittay.

The Justice finds the dittay relevant, and reserves the whole defences proponed against the verification of the dittay to the Assyis; finds the process for the Slaughter.

The Advocate passes from the taking away of the horse *pro loco et tempore*.

The Assyis being chosen, sworn and admitted, after the accusation of the said Williame Cuninghame of Tourlandis, of the crimes contained in the dittay foresaid; for Verification of the first point thereof—the said Mr Thomas Hamiltoune, advocate, produced the said Williame Cuninghame's Depositions and Confessions; whereof the tenour follows:—

Deposition and Confession of the Pannel.

At Edr., the xii. day of December, 1601 years—In presence of Johne Erll of Montrois, Chancellar, Sir George Home of Spott, Treasurer, Mr Thomas Hamiltoun of Drumcarne, Advocate, Sir Johne Cokburne, Justice Clark, and Mr William Haert of Leuielands, Justice-Depute, Williame Cunninghame of Tourlandis, being sworn, and being demanded anent the last taking of the Place of Cuninghameheid and keeping of the same, answers that the house was first taken by his brother Alexander, upon whose advertisement, understanding that there was some variance betwixt him and the soldiers within the place, the deponer came to the place, and entered therein, and remained within the same by the space of twenty or twenty-four days; by the which space he was besieged by the Lairds of Duntraith and Urchill, having the King's Commission; during which time there was shooting out of the house, and shooting in; Declares that his brother Alexander had not entered in the place of Cuninghameheid forty-eight hours, before the deponer came to him; and the taking of the place was about March, 1600 years; Denies that he was charged or put to the horne for not Rendering of the Place of Cuninghameheid, but his brother was charged, under the pain of Treason before the deponer entered in the house, and gat knowledge thereof when he entered.

And also the Advocate produced the Extract of the Letters under the sign and subscription of Mr Robert Young, for charging of the Town of Glasgow to assist the King's Commissioner, for assieging of the said house, and to lead forty hagbutters thereto, in respect of the Com-

mission and Letters of Treason, directed and executed against the Laird of Tourlandis and his complices; which was disobeyed; which extract of the Letters is of the date, at Halyruidhous, the seventh day of March, 1600 years.

And for verification of the last point of the Dittay, concerning the slaughter of the said deceased James Stewinsoune, the Advocate produced Extract of the Letters of Horning, under the subscription of Mr Johne Skene, Clerk of Register, whereby the said Williame Cuninghame of Tourlandis was put to the Horne.

VERDICT — After production thereof, and divers allegations made against the same, and anwers made thereto by our sovereign lord's Advocate, the whole persons of Assyis passed out of Court to the Council House; where, after choosing of Nicoll Carncorse of Calfhill, Chancellar, they found, pronounced and declared the said Williame Cunninghame of Tourlandis to be clean, innocent and acquit of art and part of the Slaughter of the said deceased James Stewinsoune, committed in the month of March, in the year of God 1596 years, as the Dittay bears; and also found the said Williame to be fylit, culpable and convict of the assisting of Alexander Cuninghame his brother and his complices, in the Keeping of the Place of Cuninghameheid, against the Lairds of Duntraith and Urchill, his Majesty's Commissioners; the said Alexander being charged, under the pain of Treason to have rendered the same, conform to his Depositions subscribed with his hand.

SENTENCE—To be taken to the Market Cross of Edinburgh, and there his head to be stricken from his body; and also his lands, heritages, tacks, steadings, rooms, possessions, cornes, cattle, goods and gear to be forfeited, escheat and inbrought to our sovereign lord's use, as convict of the said crime.

[NOTE.—It appears from an entry in Birrel's Diary, page 55, that Cunninghame was beheaded on the day following his trial.]

SLAUGHTER.

June 15, 1602.—JAMES CUNINGHAME of Glengarnock. Dilatit of art and part of the slaughter of the deceased William Cuninghame in Walkaird.

PURSUERS—Katherine Crawfurd, the relict of Gabriell Cuninghame, as brother. PRELOCUTORS FOR THE PURSUERS—The Laird of Cuninghamehead, the Laird of Craigance, Mr Thomas Hammiltoune. PRELOCUTORS FOR THE PANNELL—The Laird of Caprintoune, the Laird of Houstoune, the Laird of Blair, Williame Porterfeild of that ilk, Mr Johne Scharpe, Mr Williame Oliphant.

The Justice continues this diet to the morne, the xvi day of this instant. (Surety Roberto Hammiltoune de Inchemanchan.)

June 16.—The Pursuer asks instruments that he is ready to pursue and will insist conform to the caution found contrar the Laird of Glengarnok; and protests for relief of his cautioner. The Advocate declares that he will not insist in pursuit, because he has no information of the party nor the Treasurer. The Pursuer takes instruments that Gabriell Cuninghame and the Prelocutors insist on his pursuit.

The Justice, being advised with my Lord Chancellor and the rest of the Assessors, declares that, upon occasion moving them, will not put this matter to the knowledge of an Assyis this day; but continues the same to the third day of the next Justiceair of the Sheriffdome of Perth, or sooner, upon xv days warning.

The Laird of Glengarnok, present, takes instruments that the party pursuer, raiser of the letters, has compeared this day judicially, and offered him ready to pursue; like as, the said Laird of Glengarnok, being entered on pannell, offers him to (abide) a trial, for the crime libelled, according to the law.

Johne Blair of that Ilk becomes pledge and surety for James Cuninghame of Glengarnok, that he shall compear, &c.

SLAUGHTER—STOUTHREIF.

June 24, 1602.—JOHNE MURE of Auchendrane. Dilaitit of art and part of the slaughter of the deceased Sir Thomas Kennedie of Culzean, Knight; And of stouthrief (*i.e.*, theft, accompanied by violence) of his purse, worth eleven score rois-nobles; six dozen of golden buttons; a ring of gold containing nine diamonds set therein; his sword, belt, and whinger (*i.e.*, short sword, or hanger) committed the xii day of May last by past.

PURSUERS—Dame Elizabeth M'Gill, the relict of the deceased Sir Thomas Kennedie, of Cullane, Knight; James Kennedie, as son, Mr Thomas Hammiltoune of Drumcairne, Advocate to our sovereign lord.

PRELOCUTORS FOR THE PANNELL—The Laird of Langschaw (Sir Neill Montgomerie), the Laird of Rowallane (. . Mure), the Laird of Auchinlek (James Boswell), the Laird of Blair (John Blair of that ilk), Mr Williame Oliphant, Mr Johne Russell.

The Laird of Langschaw takes instruments of the entry of Johne Mure of Auchendrane; and protests that he be relieved, as caution. The pursuers take instruments of the produc-

tion of the letters; and protest for relief of their caution.

Compeared Johne, Maister of Orknay, and produced the warrand underwritten, whereof the tenour follows:—

REX,

JUSTICE, Justice Clark and your deputes. We greet you heartily well. Forasmuch as We, understanding that the xxiv day of June instant is appointed by virtue of our other Letters, directed at the instance of Dame Elizabeth M'Gill, relict of the deceased Sir Thomas Kennedie of Culzean, Knight, and James Kennedie, their eldest lawful son, with concurrence of our Advocate for our interest; for trial of Johne Mure of Auchendrane, and certain other persons, his complices, for the cruel murder and slaughter of the said deceased Sir Thomas Kennedy; committed by them in the month of May last by past. And We, willing (that he is) to be condignly tried, for the part of the said Johne Mure of Auchindrane, it is necessary that the boy called . . . . who was directed from Mayboill to the said Johne Mure of Auchindrane, as also the boy called . . . . who came to Thomas Kennedie in Bargany, a little before the committing of the said murder, was apprehended and examined and tried, which we understand is not yet done; and that the said two boys are fugitives; whereby the verity is suppressed. Therefore it is our will, and we command you, incontinent after the sight hereof, ye continue your Court, and all proceeding against the said Johne Mure of Auchendrane in the said matter, till the third day of the Air (*i.e.*, the Justiceaire of the Sheriffdom of Ayr) or that he be new summoned, by the party, to that effect. As also, that ye proceed and minister justice against all the remanent persons contained in our said Letters, compearing, and that were summoned to underly our law for the crime above specified. And this ye fail not to do, without any delay. As ye will answer to us upon your obedience. Anent the which these presents shall be your Warrand. Subscribed with our hand at Falkland, the twenty-four day of June 1602.

(Sic Subscribitur) JAMES REX.

The said Johne Mure of Auchendrane dissents to all continuation of this matter; and offered him ready to underly the law for the crimes above written.

Sir Neill Montgomerie of Langschaw becomes pledge and surety for Johne Mure that he shall compear the third day of the next Justiceair of the Sherefdome of Air, or sooner, upon xv days warning.

[NOTE.—This is, so far as the Court of Justiciary is concerned, the opening scene in one of the most remarkable trials recorded in any record. Johne Mure did not personally take part in the slaughter of Sir Thomas Kennedy and was not in any sense a party to the somewhat vulgar crime of theft exemplified in the indictment. He, however, instigated the crime. The blanks in the indictment should have been filled up with the name of William Dalrymple, a poor 'scholar' of Ayr. There was no other 'boy' associated in any way with the tragedy. At the time of the trial Dalrymple was a prisoner in Arran, whither he had been conveyed at the instance of Mure, and where he was kept a close prisoner by Montgomerie of Skelmorlie. Dalrymple, as will be afterwards seen, was barbarously murdered, lest he should incriminate Mure.]

SLAUGHTER—SHOOTING OF HAGBUTS AND PISTOLETS.

July 21, 1602.—DAVID GRAHAM of Craig, and Alexander Kennedie of Baliarrak.

Dilaitit of art and part of the Slaughter of the deceased Robert Spens, servitour to John Erle of Cassillis; and for bearing, and wearing, and shooting of hagbuts and pistolets; committed in December.

PURSUER—Mr Thomas Hammiltoune of Drumcarne, Advocate. PRELOCUTORS FOR THE PANNELL—Mr Thomas Craig, Mr Alexander King.

Compeared Rychard Spens as father, . . . Spens and . . . Spens, as brothers to the deceased Rychard Spens, and declared that they would not insist in pursuit of David Graham of Craig, at this present, and at no time hereafter; and also desert. The said David Graham declares he offers himself ready to underly the law for the crimes contained in the letters. The said Rychard Spens and his sons desired that the pursuit of Alexander Kennedie should delay, till they may have time to summon an Assyis. The said Alexander Kennedie takes instruments that he offers him to underly the law for the crimes libelled; dissenting to all continuation now, as of before. 'DESERT' as to Graham; And as to Kennedie, continued to the Justiceair of Air, the third day.

SLAUGHTER.

May 18, 1604.—WILLIAME STEWART, brother to Lord Ochiltrie, Williame Stewart, son to Sir Williame Stewart of Carstairis, Knight. Dilatit for the slaughter of the deceased Robert Cathcart, writer.

Mause Aikman, relict of the said deceased

Robert, produced our sovereign lord's Letters duly executed; and offered herself ready to pursue.

The Justice continues to the third day of the next Justice-air of Air, where they dwell, or sooner upon xv days warning. Andro, Lord Stewart of Ochiltrie and James Stewart of Leprevik, become pledges and suretics, conjunctly and severally. Johnne Grahame of Knockdoliane relieved of his caution.

SLAUGHTER—SHOOTING WITH PISTOLETS AND GUNS.

May 31, 1605.—JOHNNE MURE of Auchendrane, Johne Mure of Craigskene, Moses Lokhart, brother to the Laird of Bar, James Bannatyne in Chapel-Donall, David Kennydie, younger of Maxwaltoun, Charles Dalrumpill, burgess of Air, George Campbell, younger of Schankstoune, and Gilbert Kennydie in Machar.

Dilatit, accused and pursued, by Richard Spens, in Vgstoune, as father to deceased Richart Spens, servitour for the time to Johnne, Erll of Cassillis, and Sir Thomas Hammiltoune of Monkland, advocate to our sovereign lord, for his highness interest, for art and part of the slaughter of the said deceased Richart Spens; and for bearing, wearing, and shooting of pistolets and guns, contrar to the tenour of the Acts of Parliament; committed upon the ninth day of December, the year of God one thousand six hundred and one years, upon the lands of Pennyglene.

PURSUERS.—Richerd Spens in Vgstoune, Sir Thomas Hammiltoune of Monkland, advocate.

PRELOCUTORS FOR THE PANNELL.—My Lord Ochiltree, the Laird of Drumlanrig, the Laird of Rowallane, Josias Stewart (of Boningtoun), Mr Johnne Russell, Mr Williame Oliphant.

The two Mures, Lokhart and Bannatyne took them to our sovereign lord's Respite produced under the Privy Seal, of the date, at Falkland, the twelfth day of June, the year of God 1602, for the said crimes. Which Respite the Justice admitted, and ordained them to find caution and surety to satisfy the party for art and part of the said slaughter: Likeas, Matho Stewart of Dunduff, Josias Stewart of Boningtoun, and George Campbell, younger of Schaulestoun, became cautioners and sureties with themselves, conjunctly and severally, to satisfy the party for art and part of the slaughter of the said Richart Spens.

George Campbell also obtained our sovereign lord's Respite, produced under the Privy Seal, of the date, at Halyruidhous, the last day of November, 1602. Matho Stewart of Dunduff, Josias Stewart of Boningtoun, and Johnne Mure of Auchindrane, became pledges, &c.

The case was continued, as to the remainder of the persons on pannel, to the Justice-air of Air, third day, or sooner upon xv days notice.

[NOTE.—The word "gun" is used in this case for the first time, so far as these records are concerned. Up to this date it had been the invariable practice to use "haqbut." It may be taken for granted that the new designation was beginning in these early days of the seventeenth century, to oust the old.]

SORCERY—WITCHCRAFT, &c.

(Mr William Hairt, Justice Depute.)

July 23, 1605.—PATRIK LOWRIE in Halie (Ayrshire.)

Dilaittit, accused and pursued, by Sir Thomas Hammiltoun of Monkland, Knight, Advocate to our sovereign lord, for his highness' interest, of the crimes following, viz.—For consulting with the deceased Jonet Hunter, a notorious Witche, and who was execute to the death, for Sorceric and Witchcraft; which deceased Jonet and the said Patrik, at Whitsunday in the year of God, 1604 years, convened themselves upon the common waste Sandhills in Kyle maist ewest (*i.e.*, nearest) to the burgh of Irvine; where the Devill appeared to them and conferred with them, the deceased Katharene M'Teir, another Witche in Halie, and Margaret Duncane in Lones being also in company with them at the same time. And sicklyke, the said Patrick, being in company with the said deceased Jonet Hunter, Katharene M'Teir, and Margaret Duncane, Witches, Sorcerers, and abusers of the people, at Hallowevin, in the year of God foresaid, assembled themselves upon Lowdon-hill where there appeared to them a devellish Spreit, the Devill, in the likeness of the said Helen M'Crune, presented to the said Patrik a hair belt, in ane of the ends of the which belt appeared the similitude of four fingers and ane thumb, not far different from the claws of the Devill: Like as, the same belt, being presented by the said Jonet Hunter to the persons that passed upon her Assyis, the time of her conviction for the said crime of Witchcraft, was burned in ane fire: Like as, at divers times thereafter they assembled themselves, in divers kirks and kirkyards; where the said Patrik, and remanent his associates foresaid, raised and took up sundry dead persons furth of their graves, and dismembered the said dead corpses for the practising of their Witchcraft and Sorcerie. *Item*, for art and

part of the Bewitching, by Inchantment and Sorcerie of Bessie Saweris corn (crops) and taking away the substance and fushion (*i.e.*, pith, strength) thereof, by the space of ten years, year after year. *Item*, for art and part of the Bewitching of certain milk kye, pertaining to Johnne Fergushill, younger in Halie, at Beltane 1604 years; whereby the said kye gave no milk but blood and worsome (*i.e.*, purulent matter) thereafter. *Item*, for curing, by Inchantment and Sorcerie of the deceased Margaret M'Guffok, called "The Witch of Barneweill," her horse, whereon she rode; committed a twenty year syne, or thereby. And sic lyke, for laying on of Sorcerie, and Inchantment, and devillery upon Jonet Lowrie, the striking of her blind; and by curing and taking off of the said Witchcraft off her again, and restoring her to her former sight. *Item*, for curing and helping, by Inchantment and Sorcerie, of Elizabeth Crawford's bairn in Glasgow, who had been deadly sick of a strange incurable disease, by the space of eight or nine years of before, by taking a cloth off the said bairn's face, and signing and crossing with his hand the said bairn's face; keeping of the said cloth, by the space of eight days; and thereafter, having returned to her with the said cloth, covered her face again therewith, who sleeped a two days altogether, and wakened not; and at the two days end, one of the said bairn's een, that was of before tynt (*i.e.*, blind), through the said disease, was restored to her; and within five days thereafter the said bairn was, by the said Inchantment, cured and mended b the said Patrik. And finally, for a Common and notorious Sorcerer, Warlok, and abuser of the people, by all unlawful charms and devilish Incantations, used by him this xxiv year bygone.

For the which crimes, respectively, above written, the said Patrik Lowrie was put to the knowledge of an Assyis. The advocate asks instruments of the swearing of Assyis.

Mr David Myll being sworn, at the desire of Patrik Lowrie, to make Declaration of his "brute" (*i.e.*, report, fame) deponed that he was bruteit and commonly called "Pait the Witch!" And declares he gat his father's malison (*i.e.*, curse) and said he would make an ill end. And declares that he was ordained to make his repentance, for the brute and slander he sustained; and that he made his repentance.

And thereafter the said Patrik Lowrie desired the Justice and Assyis to trow (*i.e.*, credit) the said Mr David Myll.

My Lord Advocate protests for Wilful Error, in case they acquit him of the Dittay.

Verdict—After accusation of the said Patrik, by Dittay, of the crimes respectively above specified, and verification of the same by production of certain writts by the said Sir Thomas Hammiltoun, advocate; in Assyis, all in one voice, by the mouth of Johnne Wallace in Lonese, chanceller, found, pronounced, and declared the said Patrik to be fylet, culpable and convict of the whole crimes respectively above specified.

Sentence—The said Justice-depute decerned and ordained the said Patrik Lowrie to be taken to the Castle-hill of Edinburgh, and there to be wirreit (*i.e.*, strangled) at a stake, till he be dead; and thereafter his body to be burned in ashes; and his whole moveable goods and gear, if he any has, to be escheat, &c.

[Note.—Whatever reputation this Warlock may have had he seems to have been in reality guilty of no worse crime than amateur, and on the whole successful "doctoring." In all probability Mr David Myll, who was called at Lowrie's instance, was the minister of the parish where the unhappy creature dwelt.]

SLAUGHTER.

July 26, 1605.—George Anguse, notter; James Blair, burgess of Air; David Kennydie of Corssis; and Gilbert Grahame, younger of Craig.

Dilaitit of art and part of the Slaughter of the deceased Richerd Spens, servant to the Erle of Cassillis.

Pursuers—Richerd Spens, in Vgtoun, as father; Robert Spens, his son, as brother.

The Pursuers pass *simpliciter* from the said George Anguse, &c., and declare them to be Innocent of the said Slaughter; Whereupon the said persons on pannell asked instruments, and protested for relief of their cautioners; and that they be not called or pursued for the said crime in time coming.

TREASON—DECLINING THE JURISDICTION OF THE SECRET COUNCIL — HOLDING A GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE KIRK AFTER BEING CHARGED, &c.

Mr William Hairt of Levelandis, Justice-Depute.

Linlythgow, January 10, 1606—Mr Johnne Forbes, Minister of the Kirk of Airfurd (Moderator), Mr Johnne Welsche, Minister at Air, Mr Robert Durie, Minister at Anstruther, Mr Andro Duncane, Minister at Carraill, Mr Alex-

ander Strauchane, Minister at Creiche, Mr Johnne Scharpe, Minister at Kilmany.

Dilaitit, accused and pursued by Sir Thomas Hammiltoun of Monkland, Knight, Advocate to our sovereign Lord, for his highness' interest, of the crimes of Treason specified in the Dittay following, viz. :—

"Forasmuch as, by the first Act of our sovereign lord's Parliament, held at Edinburgh in the month of May 1584 years, it is statute and ordained, that our sovereign lord, his heirs and successors, by themselves and their Councils, are, and in time coming shall be, Judges competent to all persons his highness' subjects, of whatsoever estate, degree, function, or condition that ever they be, of spiritual or temporal, in all matters wherein they, or any of them shall be apprehended, summoned or charged, to answer to such things as shall be inquired of them by our said sovereign lord and his Council; and that none of them, who shall happen to be apprehended, called or summoned to the effect foresaid, presume or take upon hand to decline the Judgment of his highness, his heirs and successors, and their Council, in the premisses; under the pain of Treason: NOTWITHSTANDING it is of verity that the said Mr Johnne Forbes, Mr Johnne Welsche, &c., being charged by our sovereign lord's Letters, raised at the instance of his Majesty's Advocate for his highness' interest, to compear before his Majesty and the Lords of Secret Council, upon the twenty-fourth day of October lastbypast to have answered for their unlawful and contemptuous convening, proceeding and holding of a pretended General Assemblie (of the Church of Scotland) at Aberdene, the second day of July lastbypast; and appointing of a new General Assemblie to be held at Aberdene, the last Tuesday of September thereafter; without the consent and after the express refusal of the Laird of Lowriestoun, his Majesty's Commissioner, being then present in Aberdene; and in contempt of the charges of Hoirning, lawfully execute upon the first day of the said month of July lastbypast, at the market cross of the burgh of Aberdene, discharging, in our sovereign lord's name, all convening and holding of any such Assemblie, at that time and place, under the pain of rebellion; and against the will and command of the Lords of his highness' Secret Council, signified to the said Ministers by the Council's Letter then delivered to them by the said Laird of Lowriestoun, before their said proceeding, bearing, that because their Lordships understood that the holding of an Assemblie there, at that time, would highly offend his Majesty, and be estimated by his highness a high contempt, therefore it was their Lordship's will and pleasure, that the said Ministers should not hold an Assemblie, at that time, nor make any induction of a new Assemblie, but suffer the same to desert. As likewise, the said Mr Johnne Welsche, minister at Air, being charged to have compeared before the Lords of his highness' Secret Council, the said twenty-third day of October lastbypast, to have answered for his unlawful resorting to the said burgh of Aberdene upon the fourth, fifth, and sixth days respectively, of the said month of July lastbypast, and understanding, as it was most notour and manifest to all men there, how undutifully and contemptuously the said Ministers proceeded, in the holding of their said unlawful pretended General Assemblie, to the contempt of his Majesty's authority, and of the direction of the Lords of his Highness' Secret Council, in manner above specified; nevertheless, the said Mr Johnne Welsche, without all order, form, necessity, or preceding example, convened unlawfully with a number of his complices, within the Kirk of the said burgh of Aberdene, the time foresaid, and Ratified and approved the proceedings of their said brethren foresaid, in holding of their said unlawful Assemblie, and making induction of a new Assemblie, as said is, and took instruments thereupon. And in respect of the premises, all the foresaid Ministers, being charged as said is, to compear before the Lords of his highness' Secret Council, to have heard and seen it found and declared, that they had very contemptuously convened themselves, and proceeded in their said actions, the time foresaid; and therefore, the said Assemblie, and approbation thereof, declared unlawful, and so to be repute and holden in time coming; and they to be punished in their persons and goods for their unlawful convening, holding and approving of the foresaid Assemblie, in manner above written; AND the foresaid Ministers, all compearing before the said Lords of Secret Council, the said twenty-fourth day of October lastbypast, to answer in the said cause, the same being an action most competent and proper to the Jurisdiction of the Lords of Secret Council, because the same concerned the trial and punishment of a high offence, contempt of his Majesty's authority, and disobedience of his Majesty and Lords of his highness' Secret Council; Nevertheless, the foresaid Ministers, and each one of them, treasonably declined the judgment of his Majesty and Lords of his highness' Secret Council *simpliciter*, by their Declinatour, subscribed by every one of their hands, and given in by them, in Judgment, before the said Lords;

to the which, it being replied by the said Advocate, that the same should be Repelled, in respect of the said Act of Parliament, declaring all such Declinatours to be null, and the proponers thereof to incur the pain of Treason; And in respect of the which answer and reply, your said Declinatour was repelled by the said Lords of Secret Council, all in one voice; The said Ministers, nevertheless, persisted so obstinately therein, that after the same was repelled by the said Lords, as said is, whereby they could not pretend any probable doubt or ignorance of their Jurisdiction, the said Ministers gave in thereafter, their remanent dissents, in writing, under protestation always, that they adhered to their said Declinatour: By proponing whereof, as also by adhering to the said Declinatour, after that it was repelled, they, and every one of them, have committed Treason, and should incur the pains thereof."

PURSUER—Sir Thomas Hammiltoun, Advocate to our sovereign lord. PRELOCUTORS FOR THE PANNELL—Mr Thomas Gray, Mr Thomas Hoip.

THE LORDS OF SECRET COUNCIL, underwritten, declare they will assist the Justice, as ASSESSORS in this cause:—

Assessors.

John, Erle of Montroise; Alexander, Erle of Dumfermeling; Lord Fyvie, Chancellor; Johnne, Erle of Mar; Alexander, Erle of Lynlythgow; George, Erle of Dumbar; Patrick, Lord Glamess; Alexander, Lord Elphingstoune; James, Lord Abercorne; David, Lord Scone, Comptroller to his Majesty; James, Lord of Balmyrinnoche, Secretary to his Majesty, and President of his highness' College of Justice; Mark, Lord Newbottill; Walter, Priour of Blantyre; Johnne, Commendatour of Halyrudhous; Sir James Douglas of Quhittinghame; Mr Johnne Prestoune of Pennycuik, Collectour to his Majesty; Sir Richard Cokburn of Clerkingtoune, Lord Privy Seal; Johnne, Lord Murray of Tylliebairne; Sir Robert Melvill of Mourdocarny, Knight; Alexander, Maister of Elphingstoune; . . . Levinstoun of Kilsythe.

It is alleged by the pannell, that they ought to have been charged upon eleven days' warning, seeing they are to be accused for crimes of Treason. The Advocate answers, that it is daily practice, in bringing the persons put in ward to pannell, to put them summarily to a Trial; and specially, the practice of the Laird of Bonytoune, who was taken and put in ward for the breaking of his father's house and coffers, and stealing and away-taking of his father's evidents, &c., was brought from the ward to the bar and put to an Assyse.

The Justice repells the allegation, and finds further process.—Whereupon the Advocate asked instruments.

(Here follow extended objections to the relevancy of the libel, which it is unnecessary to reproduce at length, the more so that they are, in the main, summed up in the conclusion of the pleadings of the accused, viz.:—)

The pannell have declared, and by these presents declare, that they nowise thereby meant to excuse themselves from any lawful objection to his Majesty's royal authority, nor yet from the Jurisdiction of the Lords of Secret Council, in anything wherein any other subject is subject to their authority; but only, to have that cause, touching the lawfulness or unlawfulness of the said General Assemblie, being a matter more spiritual, to be judged by his Majesty and the kirk, as only judges competent thereto, according to the law of God, and established Acts of Parliament within this realme; declaring by these presents that his Majesty should judge Ecclesiastical matters with Ecclesiastical persons, like as he judges Civil matters with Civil persons; and acknowledging themselves, in all matters Civil or Criminal to be subject to his Majesty and all the lawful Jurisdictions established for such cases, within this land; unto the which, in all humble reverence, they submit themselves; like as, in all Ecclesiastical matters, they are ready to be judged by his Majesty with the General Assemblie and other established orders of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

(The Advocate having made answer) the Justice . . . . with advice of the whole Assessors, in one voice, in respect of the answers made by my Lord-Advocate, Ordain the Dittay to be put to an Assyse.—Whereupon my Lord Advocate asked instruments.

ASSYSE.

Sir Johnne Home of North Berwick, Knight; Sir George Home of Broxmouth, Knight, elder; Sir James Forrester of Carden, Knight; Sir Archibald Sterling of Keir, Knight; Johnne Levingstoune of Donypace; James Schaw of Sauchie; Mark Swyntoun of Innerkething; Harie Stewart of Craigichall; George Home of Deanes; Gawin Home of Johnnescleuch; Thomas Levingstoune of Pantoun; Robert Levingstoune of West Quarter; James Gib, younger of Carriber; Alexander Home of Rentoune; Sir Patrik Home of Polwort, Knight.

The Advocate asks instruments of the admitting and swearing of the Assyse, and after accusation of the persons on pannell, by

Dittay. The Advocate, for verification of the Dittay, produced the Declinatour, subscribed with their hands acknowledged by themselves in Judgment: Repeated the Act of Parliament: Produced the Decreit of Secret Council, the charge of Hoirning, and the pretended process, subscribed by the pretended Moderator, and the pretended Clerk of the General Assemblie, granting the receipt of the Council's Missive, of the tenour libelled, and the Declaration of his Majesty's Commissioner bearing that he dissented from their whole proceedings; and seeing my Lord Justice, by the advice of the whole Council present, has discussed the pannell's whole defences, and found the Dittay relevant; and that there rests no further to the Assyse but to declare whether the facts contained in the Dittay have been committed by the pannell or not, the same fact being so manifestly proven by the writings produced, and nowise denied by the pannell, but ratified and renewed in Judgment, as the process bears; in case they acquit the pannell the Advocate protests for Wilful Error and remeid of Law, with all rigour. The pannell protest for Error against the Assyse, in case they ffyle them of Treason. The Advocate asks instruments, that the pannell confess to giving in of the Declaratour.

VERDICT—The Assyse, by the mouth of the said Harie Stewart of Craigiehall, chancellor, found, pronounced, and declared the said six Ministers, and ilk ane of them, to be ffylet, culpable and convict of the treasonable declining of the Judgment of his Majesty and Lords of his Secret Council, conform to the Dittay above specified.

WARRANT AND DOME OF BANISHMENT pronounced against the Ministers, in Pretorio de Lynlythgow, xxiii. day of the month of October 1606, by Mr Williame Hairt of Prestoune, Justice Depute.

October 23.—Compeared Mr Thomas Hendersoun and Mr Robert Lyntoune, substitutes to our sovereign lord's Advocate, and produced to my Lord Justice his Majesty's Warrand; which the Justice caused be openly read in Judgment, and ordained the same to be insert in the books of Adjournal; whereof the tenour follows:—

JAMES R.,

Whereas, in our Justice-Court, held at Lynlythgow, the tenth of Januar lastby past, Mr Johnne Welsche, &c., were convicted of the crime of Treason, for their contemptuous and treasonable declining the Judgment of us and the Lords of our Secret Council, *simpliciter*, by a declinatour subscribed with their hands, and given in by them, in Judgment, before the said Lords of our Council; as in the said process of Conviction at more length is contained: And the pronounciation of the Dome being by our Justice, upon grave and weighty respects continued, till our further pleasure was known therein. We now considering the great insolence of that proud contempt and what dangerous example it might be, if it should pass unpunished, having in our accustomed lenity, given to these declared Traitors more than sufficient time to have implored and made humble suit for our mercy; yet finding in them nothing but a continuing endured obstinacy and wilfulness, without liklihood or appearance of recipiscence and repentence in them, for their former committed follies: And albeit the greatness of their offence, and specially in men of that function (whose lives should be lanterns and lights to others, to carry themselves in all duty and obedience, and therefore their oversights requiring the more severe animadversion and punishment), hath most justly demerited the extremity of the rigour to be inflicted upon them, for an example to affray all others to attempt the like; yet, because heretofore the Law hath never been put to execution, whereby some men may perhaps pretend that they had the more probable ignorance thereof (albeit in reason the same can be no excuse). We have, with our wonted clemency, upon that respect only, spared to inflict the rigour of the Law at this time: It being our will and pleasure that our Justice or his depute should fence and affix a Justice Court, to be held at Lynlythgow, or any other part else that our Council shall think expedient, the xxiii day of October nixtocum, and there cause Dome to be given out against the said Traitors, to be BANISHED all our dominions, during all the days of their natural lives, under pain of death: And the Dome being pronounced, our will and pleasure is, that they be returned to their wards, there to remain for the space of one month, for making their preparations for their departure; before the expiring whereof, if they do not depart, wind and weather serving, our will and pleasure is, that the ordinary death usually inflicted upon Traitors be directed to be execute upon them: And if they shall not depart within the said space, or being departed, shall return into our dominions, without our License, they shall incur the pain of death, and all other pains due to persons convicted of Treason. Whereanent these presents shall be to our Justice a sufficient Warrand. And because this our spare dealing and great clemency, extended towards those above named offenders, in this their so heinous a crime and offence,

may perhaps move in some others some presumption to think, that for trespass of this quality no greater rigour will be hereafter used; for removing of which their foolish opinion and conceit, and that every one may have notice of our full determination in any such like case hereafter, Our will and pleasure is, that in our said Justice Court, to be kept the said day, for pronouncing of the said Dome, special intimation be made, in open Court, by our said Justice, to all our lieges there present, that it is our resolution that if any hereafter shall offend in such a high trespass, that they shall be proceeded against with all severity; and that the death due unto traitors shall be inflicted upon them with all rigour; the example of our present lenity at this time, never remaining any motive to induce us to shew any such clemency to such as shall commit the like offence hereafter: And our will is that these presents be recorded in the books of Adjournal, and that publication be made hereof at the market cross of Edinburghe, and all other places needful. Given at our Court of Hamptone Court, the xxvi day of September 1606.

According to the which Warrand, the said Justice-depute, by the mouth of Henrie Wilsoune, dempster of Court, pronounced dome, and decerned and ordained the said persons to be banished all our sovereign lord's dominions, during all the days of their natural lives: And ordains them to return to their wards, there to remain for the space of one month for making of their preparation for their departure; before the expiring thereof, if they depart not, wind and weather serving, the said Justice-depute, according to the said Warrand, decerns and ordains the ordinary death usually inflicted upon persons convict of Treason to be execute upon them: And if they shall not depart within the said space, or being departed, shall return within his highness' dominions, without his Majesty's Licence, decerns and ordains them, according to the said Warrand, to incur the pain of death, and all other pains usually inflicted upon persons convict of Treason: Which was pronounced for dome.

SLAUGHTER—SHOOTING HAGBUTS AND PISTOLETS.

Feb. 25, 1606.—Hew Campbell in Mauchline, son to the deceased Thomas, Commendator of Halywod.

Dilatit of art and part of the felonious and cruel Slaughter of the deceased Johnne Glencorse of that Ilk, by shots of hagbuts and pistolets; committed upon the xiv day of September, the year of God 1581 years, upon the ground and lands of Gribtoune; upon set purpose, provision and forethought felony.

Pursuers—Isobel Glencorse, sister; Robert Glencorse, near kinsman. Prelocutor for the pannell, Mr Robert Lyntoun.

Took him to our sovereign lord's Remission, for the said crime. (At Edinburgh, Feb. 14, 1606), Williame Campbell in Grienock-maynes, Alexander Nisbet of Greneholm, and the said Hew, became cautioners and surety, conjunctly and severally, to satisfy the parties, as law will.

BREAKING THE PLACE OF KILBIRNIE—THEFT, &c.

February 26, 1606.—Johnne Craufurd, sometime in Auchincloch, now in Auchinbothie.

Dilatit of art and part of the breaking of the Place of Kilbirnie; and stealing of certain evidents and abulziementis (*i.e.*, dress, accoutrements), pertaining to Johnne Crufurd of Kilbirnie, &c.

"Forasmuch as he, accompanied with Thomas Wilsoun, in Wallace, with divers others their complices common thieves, in the month of November, the year of God 1602 years, came to the Place of Kilbirnie, the Laird being then furth of this realm, and his Lady being then in Grenok, ten mile distant from the said Place of Kilbirny; and there, under silence and cloud of night, break the said Place, at the north side thereof, entered within the same, and theftuously stole, concealed, resetted, and away took, furth thereof, and furth of the coffers then standing within the said Place, a figured velvet gown, a blue band of taffetie, a riding cloak and skirt of brown coloured cloth wrought with silver pasment; a black velvet doublet, cut out and wrought with silk cordons; a pair of brown velvet breeks wrought with cordons of gold; a loose gown of grogane, a skirt of brown satin, a brown satin doublet, two hoods with crapes; together with a pair of blankets wherein he bound all the said clothes and abulziements: Which good and gear pertained to the said Johnne Craufurd of Kilbirnie and his spouse. Like as, at the same time, he, with his complices, brake up the said Johnne Craufurd's Charter-kist, standing within the said Place, and theftuously stole, concealed, resetted, and away-took, furth thereof, a great number of the said Laird of Kilbirnie's special evidents and writs (*i.e.*, principal title deeds and writings) together with the said goods and gear and abulziements, he and his complices had, and conveyed away with them, and disponed thereupon at their pleasure; and he was art and part of the theftuous stealing, con-

cealing, resetting, and away-taking of the said goods, gear, writings, evidents, and others above written, and of the breaking of the said Place, in manner, and at time foresaid; which was notoriously known. To the token (*i.e.*, in proof), he, with his wife and servant women delivered back again to the Lady Kilbirny, within the dwelling-house of Cuthbert Crawfurd in Parkfut, in presence of the said Cuthbert Crawfurd, Hew Gawin in Boig, Williame Allane in Manis, Thomas Harvie in Broklirhill, Mungo Allane in Sarslie, Hugh Starrie in Banksyde, and George Kelso in Boughill, the particular abulziements following, viz., the said cut out velvet doublet, the brown velvet breeks, the loose grogane gown, the brown satin skirt, a brown satin doublet, the said figured velvet gown, the said brown riding cloak and skirt, with the two said hoods, which were theftuously stolen and away-brought by him and his complices, furth of the said place, at the time foresaid; in token also, he, being examined himself, in presence of the Minister, clerks and deacons of the kirk of Kilbirnie, he granted and confessed the having of the said blue taffetie band, with certain of the said Laird and Lady's writs and evidents, but would not declare how he came by them; as the Extract of his Confession, herewith produced to shew, bears. In token likewise, the said Johnne, being charged before to find caution to have compeared before the Justice, at a certain day bygone, to underly the laws for the foresaid crimes, he then, for disobedience of the said charge, was put to the horn; as the hoirning likewise shewn, bears."

The Laird of Kilbirnie takes instruments of the production of Thomas Wilsoune at the hoirne, and likewise of the production of the Letters against the cautioners for the Entrie of Johnne Craufurd, and for the roll of his Assyse; and offers him ready to pursue the said Johnne for the crimes contained in his Dittay; and protests, in respect thereof, that he be relieved of his caution.

VERDICT—The Assyse, by the mouth of Williame Orr in Lochrig, chancellor, for the most part, found, and pronounced and declared the said Johnne Craufurd to be Clean, innocent and acquit of art and part of the breaking, &c.

SLAUGHTER.

February 3, 1608.—JAMES MURE, younger of Auchindrane.

Dilaitit of art and part of the Slaughter of the deceased Sir Thomas Kennedyie of Cullane, and Williame Dalrumpill.

PURSUER—Sir Thomas Hammiltoune of Bynnie, Knight. PRELOCUTORS for the pannell, the Lairds of Blair, Cauldwall, Hessilheid, Rowallane, Mr Johnne Russell, Mr Lawrence M'Gill.

My Lord Advocate produced the Letters duly executed and indorsed whereby the defenders therein contained are denounced to the horne. Mr Johnne Russell produced Letters of Relaxation, of the date the third of Februare instant; by the which the pannell is relaxed for the crimes above written. The pannell takes instruments of his entry; and after reading of the Summons, offers himself ready to abide the trial of the Law, for the crimes contained thereintill; and dissents from all continuation. The Advocate produced the Council's Warrand for continuation of this diet to Friday next; and committing the pannell to ward in the meantime.

The JUSTICE, for obedience of the Council's Warrand, continues this matter to Friday next, and ordained the pannell to be warded in the Tolbuith of Edinburgh, in the mean time.

February 5.—*(Mr Williame Hairt, Justice-Depute)*—The Justice continues this matter to the second day of March nixtocum; and ordains the pannell to be warded in the Tolbuith, in the mean time. (Again continued on that date, and Mure ordered to be kept in ward).

TREASONABLE MURDER.

(Mr Williame Hairt of Prestoun, and Mr Alexander Colvill, Justices-Depute.)

July 15, 1608.—JOHNNE MURE, elder (and James Mure, younger) of Auchindrane.

Dilaitit of art and part of the treasonable Murder and Slaughter of the deceased Sir Thomas Kennydie of Culzeane, Knight, and Williame Caldwall (Dalrymple?)

PURSUER—Mr Robert Foulis, advocate, substitute to our sovereign lord's Advocate.

Compeared Gilbert Ross, Provost of the College Kirk of Mayboill, servitour to my Lord of Cassillis, and produced our sovereign lord's Letters, duly execute and indorsed, the one purchased by my Lord of Cassillis and his highness Advocate, for his Majesty's interest against the Lairds of Auchindrane, elder and younger; and the other Letters against the Lairds of Bombie, Caldwall, and Young Langschaw, as cautioners for the said James Mure, younger of Auchindrane, for his entry this day and place.

The Advocate produced the Council's Warrand, direct to the Justice, for continuation of this diet to the xxiii day of November next; whereof the tenour follows:—

"My Lords of Secret Counsil, unto your lordships humbly means and shews I, Johnne Erle of Cassillis, that where I have raised criminal Letters against Johnne Mure of Auchindrane, and James Mure his son, for their compearance before the Justice or his deputes, upon the xv day of July instant, to underly the Law, for the Slaughter of the deceased Laird of Culzeane and Murder of William Dalrympill, and have caused summon an Assyse to that effect; but in the meantime this expedition for the Isles have intervened, so that neither may I compear, to concur with his Majesty's Advocate in this pursuit, nor yet may the persons summoned upon the Assyse compear, but are upon their preparation for that service: And so, being that this delay proceeds not upon any occasion of mine, but upon necessity of his Majesty's service, I most humbly beseech your lordships to give command to the Justice, (Justice) Clerk, and their deputes, to continue the said diet to some certain diet, after this service in the Isles. And because the crime laid to their charge is treasonable, that the said Justice and Justice Clerk cause commit the said persons to ward in the Tolbuith of Edinburghe, therein to remain, upon their own expenses, aye and till the next diet, to be appointed by your lordships. And your lordships' answer humbly I beseech."

"At Edinburghe xiv July 1608.--The Lords of Secret Council Ordain and command, the Justice, Justice Clerk and their deputes to continue this diet within written, to the xxiii day of November nixtocum: And to return Auld Auchindrane back again to his ward, within the Tolbuith of this burgh of Edinburghe: And to cause Young Auchendrane cause his former cautioners consent, of new, to enter him before the Justice, the foresaid day, under the pain contained in the former Act; and failing thereof, that he find all sufficient caution, to the contentment of the Council, for the same effect; and in the mean time, until his caution be found, that he cause Young Auchindrane be committed to ward, within the Tolbuith of Edinburgh."

(Sic Subscribitur). Al. Cancells.

Mr Johnne Russell, prelocutor for Auld Auchindrane, and Auchindrane himself, Offers himself to the trial of the Law, for the crimes contained in the Letters; dissenting to all continuation: And as to the Warrand produced, the same ought not to be respected, in respect it is purchased only by the party. Compeared Mr Johnne Russell, as prelocutor for the Lairds of Bombie, Cauldwell, and Young Langschaw, and alleged that they can not enter James Mure, younger of Auchindrane, in respect of the Proclamation. It is answered by the Advocate, for Auld Auchindrane, that, in respect of the Proclamation, the diet must continue, conforme to the Council's Warrand; and as concerning Young Auchindrane, the cautioners ought to present him, or otherwise incur the unlaw.

The Justice Ordains the Auld Laird of Auchendrane to be committed to Ward, conform to the Council's Warrand. Whereupon the Advocate asked instruments. And as concerning Young Auchendrane and his cautioners, continues this diet, in the same form, force and effect as it is now, to the xxiii day of November nixtocum; and ordains the cautioners that day, to exhibit the Young Laird of Auchendrane, under the pains contained in the former Acts; and Ordains Letters, if need be, to be granted to the party pursuer, for charging of the said cautioners to enter him the said day.

Whereupon the said Gilbert Ross asked instruments.

TREASONABLE MURDER UNDER TRUST, &c.

November 23, 1608.—Johnne Mure, elder of Auchendrane, and James Mure, younger of Auchendrane.

Dilaitit of art and part of the crimes following, viz., the Auld Laird, for the Slaughter of the deceased Sir Thomas Kennydie of Culzeane, Knight, and the deceased Williame Dalrumpill; and the Young Laird for art and part of the Slaughter of the said deceased Williame Dalrumpill.

Pursuers — Sir Thomas Hammiltoun of Bynnie, Knight, Advocate to our sovereign lord for his interest, Johnne, Erle of Cassillis, (Bessie Dalrumpill, as mother).

Prelocutors for the Pannell.—The Laird of Caldwall, the Laird of Bombie, the Laird of Blair, younger, Mr Williame Oliphant, Mr Johnne Russell, Williame Mure of Randerstoune.

(The diet again continued to the last day of November instant, Auld Auchendrane being committed to ward in the Tolbooth of Edinburgh, and Young Auchendrane warded in the Castle of Edinburgh. On November 30 there was another continuation, to February 3, 1609, and again from that to May 3, of the same year. No further notice of proceedings before the Court of Justiciary occurs until July 17, 1611.)

WITCHCRAFT—ADMINISTERING ENCHANTED DRINK.

November 9, 1609.—James Mure in Mynniehagen.

Dilaitit of art and part of Bewitching of Margaret Wicht in Dalmellingtoun, and taking from her of her Wits, by ministering to her of an Inchanted drink.

PURSUER — Margaret Wicht. PRELOCUTOR FOR THE PANNELL—Joseph Miller, advocate.

The pannell takes instruments of his entry and offers himself to the trial of the Law, dissenting from all continuation, and protests for relief of his caution.

The Justice, in respect that there is no sufficient number of Assyse compearing this day, continues this diet to the 3 day of the (Justice) aire (of the Shire of Air) or sooner, upon xv days warning, to underly the law for the said crime under the pains contained in the Acts of Parliament; who found Sir Johnne Wallace of Carnell, Knight, cautioner for his entry to the effect foresaid.

February 7, 1610.—For the relief of his cautioners, and trial of his own innocence of the said alleged crimes, he now compears, and most willingly offers himself to the trial of the law for the same, dissenting from all continuation. And in respect that the said Margaret nor no others compear this day to insist in his pursuit for the said alleged crimes, and that this is the second diet kept by him for abiding trial thereof; and that the same pursuit is but maliciously invented against him, by the said Margaret, for her own privy advantage, by raising of Letters against him; and the persons summoned by her upon his Assyse, of whom she has received great sums of money, in composition, to abide at home; Protests, in respect of the premises for (Sir) Johnne Wallace of Carnall his relief of his cautionerie, and that he be not called, troubled, or pursued, at the instance of the said Margaret, or any other party, for the alleged crimes above specified; neither yet that my lord Justice suffer Letters to be direct against him to that effect, in any time coming. Which protestation the Justice admitted.

ABIDING FROM THE RAID OF THE ISLES.

March 13, 1611.—GILBERT M'ADAME of Watterheid; Donald M'Millane of Knockingarroche; Robert M'Adame of Smeistoune; George M'Adame, there; Johnne M'Nacht of Doungeucht; Gilbert Achannane of Murdochat; Robert Fergussone of M'Killiestoune; Johnne M'Kill, elder; Johnne M'Kill, younger; Williame Makadame of Craigullane; Thomas Erdoun of Crago; Johnne Neilson of Corsok.

Dilaitit for the alleged contravening of his Majesty's Proclamation, in not accompanying and passing forwards with Andro, Lord Swart of Ochiltrie, as his Majesty's Lieutenant, in the prosecution of his highness' service, towards the repressing of the insolencies of certain the disobedient Inhabitants of the Isles of this Kingdom; according to his highness' Proclamations made to that effect, in the months of May and June, the year of God 1608 years.

Compeared judicially the said Gilbert, &c., and in respect that they and every one of them had furnished forth sufficient able men to the said Lieutenant in the foresaid Expedition, and thereupon had purchased the said Lord Lieutenant's Testificat, with his licence to abide at home themselves, and not to pass forward with his Lordship, in the said Army; which Licence they produced in Judgment to the Justice, under the said Lord Lieutenant's subscription, dated at Air the xxvii of July 1608 years. And protested that they, nor none of them should be in any way troubled, unlawed, or pursued for the causes above mentioned; but that they, and each one of them should be assoilzied *simpliciter* therefrom in time coming. Which Protestation the Justice admitted.

And in respect that the said Andro, Lord Stewart of Ochiltrie, his Majesty's Lieutenant foresaid, being personally present, who affirmed the Licences above written, and granting thereof to be of verity, Ordained that none of the persons foresaid, should be called or troubled for abiding from the said Raid of the Isles, in any time coming. Whereupon the said persons asked instruments.

SLAUGHTER OF THE PROVOST OF WIGTOUN—SHOOTING HAGBUTS, &C.

(Sir William Heart, Justice-Depute.)

May 22, 1611.—JOHNNE KENNYDIE of Blairquhan, and Johnne Bairdie, brother germane to the Laird of Kilquhinzie.

Dilaitit of art and part of the felon and cruel Slaughter of the deceased Patrik Ahannay of Kirkdaill, Provost of Wigtoune; committed by them and their complices with shots of hagbuts and pistolets, at the Cruves of the Watter of Cree, in the month of December 1600 years, upon set purpose, provision, and forethought felony; And for bearing, wearing, and s ooting of hagbuts and pistolets, contrair the tenour of the Act of Parliament.

PURSUERS—Patrik Ahannay of Kirkdaill as son to the deceased Patrik A.; Sir Thomas Hammiltoun of Byres, Knight, Advocate to our sovereign lord for his Majesty's interest.

PRELOCUTORS FOR THE PANNELL—My Lord of Cassillis, my Lord Ochiltrie, Gilbert Roiss, Mr Johnne Russell, Mr Thomas Hoip, and Mr Lawrence M'Gill, advocates.

The pannell accepts the summons, and specially that part thereof where the defunct was shot with peisttis (*i.e.*, pellets) or drops with a charged hagbut. It is alleged that this matter can not pass to an Assyse; because his Majesty, of his special grace, has given to the persons on pannell a Remissioa, which they produced to the Justice, of the date at Edinburgh the xviii day of May instant; And offer Caution to satisfy the party. It is answered that this Remission can not stay the matter to pass to an Assyse, because by Act of Parliament in year 1593, it is provided that all Remissions are null that are purchased after a party passes to the horne for the time; which allegation is received by way of exception, the party not being satisfied. It is answered that this Act of Parliament is not *in viridi observantia*, and has not taken effect in this Judgment of before; Which allegation he offers to verify by my Lord Cassillis, and others here present.

The Justice continues Interlocutor upon this allegation to Friday next.

May 24.—My Lord Advocate, before Interlocutor, passes from his lordship's former allegations; whereupon the pannell takes instruments.

The Justice by Interlocutor, admits the Remission produced by the persons on pannell and their prelocutors; and Ordained them to find sufficient and responsible Caution and surety to satisfy the party grieved; conform to the laws and daily practice of this realm.

Whereupon the said Johnne Kennydie of Blairquhan and Johnne Bairdis asked instruments: And for obedience of the said Justice Ordinance, nominate my Lord of Cassillis, my Lord Ochiltrie, Sir Robert M'Clellane of Bombie, Knight, Williame Cunninghame of Capringtoun, and Sir James Kennydie of Culzeane, as cautioners, conjunctly and severally for them; like as, being all personally present, in presence of the Justice, bound and obliged them, conjunctly and severally, their heirs, executors, and assignees, to satisfy the party, viz., the kin and friends of the said deceased Patrik Ahannay of Kirkdaill, for the slaughter above written; conforme to the laws of this realm.

The pannells bound themselves to relieve their cautioners; and the cautioners also obliged themselves to free each other, *pro rata*, &c.

SLAUGHTER.

June 28, 1611.—PATRIK MAXWALL of Newwark.

Dilaitit of art and part of the slaughter of the deceased Robert Montgomerie of Skelmourlie, and the deceased Williame Montgomerie, (heir) apparent of Skelmourlie, committed in the month of . . . . 1583 years.

PURSUER—George Montgomerie.

The Laird of Newwark produced a Warrand of the Lords of Secret Council, anent the deserting of this diet, for the reasons contained in the Supplication given in to their lordships thereanent; with a command on the back of the said Supplication and Warrand above written, commanding the Justice to take caution of either of the parties before their coming out of judgment, that they shall remain and keep ward within this burgh, until Tuesday next; and that they shall compear before his Majesty's Council, the said day, under the pains following, viz., of Newwerk, under the pain of two thousand marks, and George Montgomerie, under the pain of one thousand marks. Which Warrand is dated at Edinburgh, the xxvii day of June 1611 instant. For obedience of the which Warrand and ordinance therein contained, the Justice deserted the said diet; and ordained the said two parties, *hinc vide*, to find caution for their compearance before the Lords of Secret Council the said day, viz., the second day of July, under the pains above specified; Like as, for obedience of the said Justice ordinance, compeared Williame, Lord Kilmaweris, and became pledge and surety for the said Patrik Maxwall; and vic lyke, compeared James Dunlope of that Ilk, and became surety for the said George, &c.

TREASON—SLAUGHTER—MURDER UNDER TRUST.

[The Trial of the MURES OF AUCHENDRANE may, without hesitation, be pronounced to be one of the most remarkable in the whole range of the criminal annals of this, or perhaps of any other country. In it are unfolded their most hidden transactions, and the secret springs of their most private and craftily contrived plots, all of them leading to the perpetration of crimes so singular in atrocity, and of so deep a dye, that one can hardly expect to meet with their parallel, even in the pages of romantic fiction. By the clue, now afforded, may be traced almost the secret thoughts of two of the most accomplished and finished adepts in crime—individuals who murdered by rule, and who carried forward their deadly scheme of ambition, by means of a regularly connected chain of plots and stratagems, so artfully contrived, as to afford them every reasonable prospect of success—and even in the event of the entire failure of their plans, almost to ensure their escape from suspicion; at the least, in their estimation, to warrant their security against

ultimate detection, and consequently exempt them from the penalty of capital punishment.

Ambition and the lust of power appear to have been the immediate and procuring causes of all the crimes in which these infatuated men were involved. Theirs was not the sudden burst of ungoverned passions, which might have hurried them on to the commission of a solitary deed of frightful but unpremeditated violence, nor were their crimes the consequences of ancient Feuds, inherited from their restless and vindictive ancestors—nor yet had they the too common apology that they originated in impetuous assaults made upon them, and that their quarrels sprang from a hasty and unbridled temper, which had unfortunately terminated in fatal results. On the contrary, the whole of their numerous attempts and crimes may be characterised as cool, calculating, and deliberate acts, anxiously studied, and by slow and patient, but sure, degrees matured and prosecuted for a long series of years, until at length 'the measure of their iniquities overflowed,' and the unlooked for occurrence of an extraordinary train of circumstances, the most unlikely to have happened, eventually led to a triumphant discovery of their enormous crimes.

It is quite unnecessary here to enter into any detailed account of the facts connected with the crimes of these individuals. Their leading features are already familiar to all, ever since the publication of 'Auchindrane, or the Ayrshire Tragedy' from the pen of Sir Walter Scott; in the preface to which dramatic sketch, the origin and progress of these dark transactions are so fully discussed, that the Editor begs simply to refer the reader to a reperusal of that work.

In addition to the information contained in the 'dittay,' and in the pleadings in this Trial, the Editor has been anxious to collect and to lay before the reader the most remarkable circumstances connected with the history of the elder and younger Mures. For this purpose he has for some years past used all exertions to extend his researches in every direction where authentic illustrative Documents and Records could be procured—and he has now the satisfaction of appending to this highly interesting case a variety of papers, which may almost be said to throw all the light that can now be reasonably expected on proceedings which occurred now above two hundred and twenty years ago.

For the purposes of the present Introductory Notice, it is enough to state, as in reference to the persons who principally figure in this dark tragedy, that so far as respected birth, the MURES OF AUCHENDRANE were of the most respectable and ancient extraction, and were connected with many of the most opulent and influential families in Ayrshire. They also for a considerable period held a conspicuous station in all the transactions and feuds of the district of Carrick. There is no reason to doubt that the Mures of Monyhagen and Auchendrane (which last title was only latterly assumed by them) were cadets of the very ancient and honourable family of Mure of Rowallan, now (1830) represented by the present Marchioness of Hastings, as Countess of Loudoun, &c. In confirmation of this fact, Sir William Mure of Rowallan, Knight, in his History of that House (1657), states that Andrew Mure of Monyhagen, the first of the family, was either a son or a grandson of Sir Gilchrist Mure, who died *circa ann.* 1280. It does not appear how or when they became possessors of the Lands of Auchendrane; but it is certain that previous to the wars of Bruce and Baliol, Auchendrane (*i.e.*, the Field of Thorns) belonged in property to Robert Brown; and was, upon his forfeiture, granted by King Robert the Bruce to Henry Annan. By a charter, dated March 16, 1498, James Mure of Monyhagen granted certain lands in Wigtownshire in favour of James Mure his son, and Margaret Wallace his spouse. One of the witnesses to this deed is John Mure, 'grandson and heir apparent of the said James,' which shews him to have been a very old man at that period, and that he was born *circa*, 1430. This John Mure must have been the grandfather of the old Laird of Auchendrane, who figures in the present Trial.

It is pretty evident, as appears from a charter of Novodamus of the Lands of Leffenhill, dated September 29, 1671, by Chalmers of Gadgirth in favour of John Mure of Auchendrane (eldest son of Sir John Mure of Auchendrane, who was eldest son of James Mure, younger of Auchendrane, executed along with his father for the murder of Dulrymple) that the elder Mure must have been nearly eighty years of age at the period of his execution! The grantee is described as heir of John Mure of Monyhagen, *proavi*, who had in like manner had a charter of same lands from Campbell of Loudoun, September 2, 1550. This John Mure, who obtained the above mentioned charter 1671, married Bethia Hamilton, daughter of Hamilton of Dalzell, by whom he had at least one son, James, who probably predeceased him—for he conveyed Auchendrane to his brother Hugh Mure, whose son or grandson sold it early in the last century; and the family, it is believed, is now extinct in the male line.

To return to John Mure elder, and James Mure, younger of Auchendrane, the subjects of the following trial, it is worthy of notice, as proving their rank and consequence in the most convincing manner, that John Mure the elder married Margaret Kennedy, second daughter of Sir Thomas Kennedy of Bargany (died November 7, 1597) by Lady Agnes Montgomery, sister to Hugh, third Earl of Eglinton; and that James Mure, the younger, married Helen, second daughter of Sir Thomas Kennedy of Culzean, Tutor of Cassillis, by Dame Elizabeth MacGill, daughter of David MacGill of Cranstoun-Riddell, King's Advocate, and relict of the celebrated Robert Logan of Restalrig.

On occasion of John, fifth Earl of Cassillis, going on his travels to France, he conferred the Bailliary of Carrick upon the elder Auchendrane for all the period of his life, an office of high trust and respectability, having the Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction of the whole of that extensive and populous district. It had previously been enjoyed by Kennedy of Blairquhan, one of the most powerful Chiefs of the name of Kennedy. The Earl had previously given Auchendrane grants of a five-merk-land and a two-merk-land in return for his fealty and service; and besides, 'the said Johne to be on his charges ever when he was out of Carrick.' Through the influence, as was asserted, of Sir Thomas Kennedy of Culzean, the Tutor of Cassillis, this office was recalled on the Earl's return, which probably gave rise to the deadly grudge of Auchendrane, and after the lapse of many years, eventually terminated in his murder. After the period of this recall, Auchendrane returned to the allegiance of the Laird of Bargany, and took a most active lead in all the feuds of that disturbed country.

[NOTE.—Pitcairn, as will be seen, refers to the preface of Sir Walter Scott's drama, "Auchendrane, or the Ayrshire Tragedy," for a detailed account of the facts connected with these crimes; and although most students of Ayrshire history must be familiar with the sketch alluded to, it has been thought desirable to append it here, notwithstanding one or two trifling inaccuracies in points of detail, so that nothing may be wanting to complete the story of a sequence of crimes that must always remain historical.

SIR WALTER SCOTT'S NARRATIVE OF THE TRAGEDY OF AUCHENDRANE.

John Mure, or Mure of Auchendrane, the contriver and executor of the following cruelties, was a gentleman of an ancient family and good estate in the West of Scotland; bold, ambitious, treacherous to the last degree, and utterly unconscientious—a Richard the Third in private life, inaccessible alike to pity and to remorse. His view was to raise the power and extend the grandeur of his own family. This gentleman had married the daughter of Sir Thomas Kennedy of Bargany, who was, excepting the Earl of Cassillis, the most important person in all Carrick, the district of Ayrshire which he inhabited, and where the name of Kennedy held so great a sway as to give rise to the popular rhyme—

> 'Twixt Wigton and the town of Air,
> Portpatrick and the Cruives of Cree,
> No man need think for to bide there
> Unless he court Saint Kennedie.

Now, Mure of Auchendrane, who had promised himself high advancement by means of his father-in-law, Bargany, saw, with envy and resentment, that his influence remained second and inferior to the House of Cassillis, chief of all the Kennedy's. The Earl was indeed a minor, but his authority was maintained and his affairs well managed by his uncle, Sir Thomas Kennedy of Culzean, brother to the deceased Earl, and tutor and guardian to the present. This worthy gentleman supported his nephew's dignity and the credit of the house so effectually that Bargany's consequence was much thrown in the shade, and the ambitious Auchendrane, his son-in-law, saw no better remedy than to remove so formidable a rival as Culzean by violent means.

For this purpose, in the year of God 1597, he came with a party of followers to the town of Maybole (where Sir Thomas Kennedy of Culzean then resided) and lay in ambush in an orchard, through which he knew his destined victim was to pass, in returning homewards from a house where he was engaged to sup. Sir Thomas Kennedy came alone and unattended, when he was suddenly fired upon by Auchendrane and his accomplices, who, having missed their aim, drew their swords and rushed upon him to slay him, but the party thus assailed at disadvantage had the good fortune to hide himself for that time in a ruinous house, where he lay concealed till the inhabitants of the place came to his assistance.

Sir Thomas Kennedy prosecuted Mure for this assault, who, finding himself in danger from the law, made a sort of apology and agreement with the Laird of Culzean, to whose daughter he united his eldest son in testimony of the closest friendship in future. This agreement was sincere on the part of Kennedy, who, after it had been entered into, showed himself Auchendrane's friend and assistant on all occa-

sions; but it was most false and treacherous on that of Mure, who continued to nourish the purpose of murdering his new friend and ally on the first opportunity.

Auchendrane's first attempt to effect this was by means of the young Gilbert Kennedy of Bargany (for old Bargany, Auchendrane's father-in-law, was dead), whom he persuaded to brave the Earl of Cassillis, as one who usurped an undue influence over the rest of the name. Accordingly this hot-headed youth, at the instigation of Auchendrane, rode past the gate of the Earl of Cassillis without waiting on his chief or sending him any message of civility. This led to mutual defiance, being regarded by the Earl, according to the ideas of the time, as a personal insult. Both parties took the field with their followers, at the head of about two hundred and fifty men on each side. The action which ensued was shorter and less bloody than might have been expected. Young Bargany, with the rashness of headlong courage, and Auchendrane, fired by deadly enmity to the house of Cassillis, made a precipitate attack on the Earl, whose men were strongly posted and under cover. They were received by a heavy fire. Bargany was slain. Mure of Auchendrane, severely wounded in the thigh, became unable to sit his horse, and the leaders thus slain or disabled, their party drew off without continuing the action. It must be particularly observed that Sir Thomas Kennedy remained neuter in this quarrel, considering his connexion with Auchendrane as too intimate even to be broken by his desire to assist his nephew.

For this temperate and honourable conduct he met a vile reward; for Auchendrane, in resentment of the loss of his relative Bargany, and the downfall of his ambitious hopes, continued his practices against the life of Sir Thomas of Culzean, though totally innocent of contributing to either. Chance favoured his wicked purpose.

The Knight of Culzean, finding himself obliged to go to Edinburgh on a particular day, sent a message by a servant to Mure, in which he told him, in the most unsuspecting confidence, the purpose of his journey, and named the road which he proposed to take, inviting Mure to meet him at Duppill, to the west of the town of Ayr, a place appointed for the purpose of giving him any commissions which he might have for Edinburgh, and assuring his treacherous ally he would attend to any business which he might have in the Scottish metropolis, as anxiously as to his own. Sir Thomas Kennedy's message was carried to the town of Maybole, where his messenger, for some trivial reason, had the import committed to writing by a schoolmaster in that town, and despatched it to its destination by means of a poor student, named Dalrymple, instead of carrying it to the house of Auchendrane in person.

This suggested to Mure a diabolical plot. Having thus received tidings of Sir Thomas Kennedy's motions, he conceived the infernal purpose of having the confiding friend who sent the information, waylaid and murdered at the place appointed to meet with him, not only in friendship, but for the purpose of rendering him service. He dismissed the messenger Dalrymple, cautioning the lad to carry back the letter to Maybole, and to say that he had not found him, Auchendrane, in his house. Having taken this precaution, he proceeded to instigate the brother of the slain Gilbert of Bargany, Thomas Kennedy of Drum-urghie by name, and Walter Mure of Cloncaird, a kinsman of his own, to take this opportunity of revenging Bargany's death. The fiery young men were easily induced to undertake the crime. They waylaid the unsuspecting Sir Thomas of Culzean at the place appointed to meet the traitor Auchendrane, and the murderers having in company five or six servants, well mounted and armed, assaulted and cruelly murdered him with many wounds. They then plundered the dead corpse of his purse, containing a thousand merks in gold, cut off the gold buttons which he wore on his coat, and despoiled the body of some valuable rings and jewels.

The revenge due for his uncle's murder was keenly pursued by the Earl of Cassillis. As the murderers fled from trial they were declared outlaws; which doom, being pronounced by three blasts of a horn, was called "being put to the horn and declared the King's rebel." Mure of Auchendrane was strongly suspected of having been the instigator of the crime. But he conceived there could be no evidence to prove his guilt if he could keep the boy Dalrymple out of the way, who delivered the letter which made him acquainted with Culzean's journey, and the place at which he meant to halt. On the contrary, he saw that if the lad could be produced at the trial, it would afford ground of fatal presumption, since it could be then proved that persons so nearly connected with him as Kennedy and Cloncaird had left his house, and committed the murder at the very spot which Culzean had fixed for their meeting.

To avoid this imminent danger, Mure brought Dalrymple to his house, and detained him there for several weeks. But the youth tiring of his

confinement, Mure sent him to reside with a friend, Montgomery of Skelmorly, who maintained him under a borrowed name, amid the desert regions of the then almost savage island of Arran. Being confident in the absence of this material witness, Auchendrane, instead of flying, like his agents, Drum-urghie and Cloncaird, presented himself boldly at the bar, demanded a fair trial, and offered his person in combat to the death against any of Lord Cassillis' friends who might impugn his innocence. This audacity was successful, and he was dismissed without trial.

Still, however, Mure did not consider himself safe, so long as Dalrymple was within the realm of Scotland; and the danger grew more pressing when he learned that the lad had become impatient of the restraint which he sustained in the island of Arran, and returned to some of his friends in Ayrshire. Mure no sooner heard of this than he again obtained possession of the boy's person, and a second time concealed him at Auchendrane, until he found an opportunity to transport him to the Low Countries, where he contrived to have him enlisted in Buccleuch's regiment; trusting, doubtless, that some of the numerous chances of war might destroy the poor young man, whose life was so dangerous to him.

But after five or six years' uncertain safety, bought at the expense of so much violence and cunning, Auchendrane's fears were exasperated into frenzy when he found this dangerous witness, having escaped from all the perils of climate and battle, had left, or been discharged from, the Legion of Borderers, and had again accomplished his return to Ayrshire. There is ground to suspect that Dalrymple knew the nature of the hold which he possessed over Auchendrane, and was desirous of extorting from his fears some better provision than he had found either in Arran or the Netherlands. But if so, it was a fatal experiment to tamper with the fears of such a man as Auchendrane, who determined to rid himself effectually of this unhappy young man.

Mure now lodged him in a house of his own called Chapeldonan, tenanted by a vassal and connexion of his, called James Bannatyne. This man he commissioned to meet him at ten o'clock at night on the sea-sands near Girvan, and bring with him the unfortunate Dalrymple, the object of his fear and dread. The victim seems to have come with Bannatyne without the least suspicion, though such might have been raised by the time and place appointed for the meeting. When Bannatyne and Dalrymple came to the appointed spot, Auchendrane met them, accompanied by his eldest son, James. Old Auchendrane, having taken Bannatyne aside, imparted his bloody purpose of ridding himself of Dalrymple forever, by murdering him on the spot. His own life and honour were, he said, endangered by the manner in which this inconvenient witness repeatedly thrust himself back into Ayrshire, and nothing could secure his safety but taking the lad's life, in which action he requested Bannatyne's assistance. Bannatyne felt some compunction, and remonstrated against the cruel expedient, saying it would be better to transport Dalrymple to Ireland, and take precautions against his return. While old Auchendrane seemed disposed to listen to this proposal, his son concluded that the time was come for accomplishing the purpose of their meeting; and without waiting the termination of his father's conference with Bannatyne, he suddenly rushed on Dalrymple, beat him to the ground, and kneeling down on him, with his father's assistance, accomplished the crime by strangling the unhappy object of their fear and jealousy. Bannatyne, the witness, and partly the accomplice of the murder, assisted them in their attempt to make a hole in the sand with a spade which they had brought on purpose, in order to conceal the dead body. But as the tide was coming in, the holes which they made filled with water before they could get the body buried, and the ground seemed to their terrified consciences to refuse to be accessory to concealing their crime. Despairing of hiding the corpse in the manner they proposed, the murderers carried it out into the sea as deep as they dared wade, and there abandoned it to the billows, trusting that a wind, which was blowing off the shore, would drive these remains of their crime out to sea, where they would never more be heard of. But the sea, as well as the land, seemed unwilling to conceal their cruelty. And after floating for some hours or days the dead body was, by the wind and tide, again driven on shore, near the very spot where the murder had been committed.

This attracted general attention, and when the corpse was known to be that of the same William Dalrymple—whom Auchendrane had so often spirited out of the country, or concealed when he was in it—a strong and general suspicion arose, that this young person had met with foul play from the bold bad man who had shown himself so much interested in his absence. It was always said or supposed that the dead body had bled at the approach of a grandchild of Mure of Auchendrane, a girl who, from curiosity, had come to look at a sight which others crowd-

ed to see. The bleeding of a murdered corpse at the touch of the murderer, was a thing at that time so much believed, that it was admitted as a proof of guilt ; but I know no case, save that of Auchendrane, in which the phenomenon was supposed to have extended to the approach of the innocent kindred ; nor do I think that the fact itself, though mentioned by ancient lawyers, was ever admitted to proof in the proceedings against Auchendrane.

It is certain, however, that Auchendrane found himself so much the object of suspicion from this new crime, that he resolved to fly from justice, and suffer himself to be declared a rebel and outlaw rather than face a trial. But his conduct in preparing to cover his flight with another motive than the real one, is a curious picture of the men and manners of the times. He knew well that if he were to shun his trial for the murder of Dalrymple, the whole country would consider him as a man guilty of a mean and disgraceful crime, in putting to death an obscure lad, against whom he had no personal quarrel. He knew, besides, that his powerful friends, who would have interceded for him had his offence been merely burning a house, or killing a neighbour, would not plead for, or stand by, him in so pitiful a concern as the slaughter of this wretched wanderer.

Accordingly Mure sought to provide himself with some ostensible cause for avoiding law, with which the feelings of his kindred and friends might sympathise ; and none occured to him so natural as an assault upon some friend and adherent of the Earl of Cassillis. Should he kill such a one, it would be indeed an unlawful action, but so far from being infamous, would be accounted the natural consequence of the avowed quarrel between the families.

With this purpose, Mure, with the assistance of a relation, of whom he seems always to have had some ready to execute his worst purposes, beset Hugh Kennedy of Garriehorn, a follower of the Earl's, against whom they had special ill-will, fired their pistols at him, and used other means to put him to death. But Garriehorn, a stout-hearted man, defended himself in a very different manner from the unfortunate Knight of Culzean, and beat off the assailants, wounding young Auchendrane in the right hand, so that he well nigh lost the use of it.

But though Auchindrane's purpose did not entirely succeed, he availed himself of it to circulate a report, that if he could obtain a pardon for firing upon his feudal enemy with pistols, weapons declared unlawful by Act of Parliament, he would willingly stand his trial for the death of Dalrymple, respecting which he protested his total innocence. The King, however, was decidedly of opinion that the Mures, both father and son, were alike guilty of both crimes, and used intercession with the Earl of Abercorn, as a person of power in these western counties, as well as in Ireland, to arrest and transmit them prisoners to Edinburgh. In consequence of the Earl's exertions, old Auchendrane was made prisoner, and lodged in the tolbooth of Edinburgh.

Young Auchendrane no sooner heard that his father was in custody, than he became as apprehensive of Bannatyne, the accomplice in Dalrymple's murder, telling tales, as ever his father had been of Dalrymple. He, therefore, hastened to him, and prevailed on him to pass over for a while to the neighbouring coast of Ireland, finding him money and means to accomplish the voyage, and engaging in the meantime to take care of his affairs in Scotland. Secure, as they thought, in this precaution, old Auchendrane persisted in his innocence, and his son found security to stand his trial. Both appeared with the same confidence at the day appointed, and braved the public justice, hoping to be put to a formal trial, in which Auchendrane reckoned upon an acquittal for want of the evidence which he had removed. The trial was, however, postponed, and Mure the elder was dismissed, under high security to return when called for.

But King James, being convinced of the guilt of the accused, ordered young Auchendrane, instead of being sent to trial, to be examined under the force of torture, in order to compel him to tell whatever he knew of the things charged against him. He was accordingly severely tortured, but the result only served to shew that such examinations are as useless as they are cruel. A man of weak resolution, or of nervous habit, would probably have assented to any confession, however false, rather than have endured the extremity of fear and pain to which Mure was subjected. But young Auchendrane, a strong and determined ruffian, endured the torture with the utmost firmness, and by the constant audacity with which, in spite of the intolerable pain, he continued to assert his innocence, he spread so favourable an opinion of his case, that the detaining him in prison, instead of bringing him to open trial, was censured as severe and oppressive. James, however, remained firmly persuaded of his guilt, and by an exertion of authority quite inconsistent with our present laws, commanded young Auchendrane to be still detained in close custody till further light could be thrown on these dark proceedings.

He was detained accordingly by the King's express personal command, and against the opinion even of his privy councillors. This exertion of authority was much murmured against.

In the meantime old Auchendrane, being, as we have seen, at liberty on pledges, skulked about in the west, feeling how little security he had gained by Dalrymple's murder, and that he had placed himself by that crime in the power of Bannatyne, whose evidence concerning the death of Dalrymple could not be less fatal than what Dalrymple might have told concerning Auchendrane's accession to the conspiracy against Sir Thomas Kennedy of Culzean. But though the event had shewn the error of his wicked policy, Auchendrane could think of no better mode in this case than that which had failed in relation to Dalrymple. When any man's life became inconsistent with his own safety, no idea seems to have occurred to this inveterate ruffian save to murder the person by whom he might himself be in any way endangered. He therefore attempted the life of James Bannatyne by more agents than one. Nay, he had nearly ripened a plan by which one Pennycuke was to be employed to slay Bannatyne, while, after the deed was done, it was devised that Mure of Auchmull, a connexion of Bannatyne, should be instigated to slay Pennycuke; and thus close up this train of murders by one, which, flowing in the ordinary course of deadly feud, should have nothing in it so particular as to attract much attention.

But the justice of Heaven would bear this complicated train of iniquity no longer. Bannatyne, knowing with what sort of men he had to deal, kept on his guard, and, by his caution, disconcerted more than one attempt to take his life, while another miscarried by the remorse of Pennycuke, the agent whom Mure employed. At length Bannatyne, tiring of this state of insecurity, and in despair of escaping such repeated plots, and also feeling remorse for the crime, to which he had been accessory, resolved rather to submit himself to the severity of the law, than remain the object of the principal criminal's practices. He surrendered himself to the Earl of Abercorn, and was transported to Edinburgh, where he confessed before the King and council all the particulars of the murder of Dalrymple, and the attempt to hide his body by committing it to the sea.

When Bannatyne was confronted with the two Mures before the Privy Council, they denied with vehemence every part of the evidence he had given, and affirmed that the witness had been bribed to destroy them by a false tale. Bannatyne's behaviour seemed sincere and simple, that of Auchendrane more resolute and crafty. The wretched accomplice fell upon his knees, invoking God to witness that all the land in Scotland could not have bribed him to bring a false accusation against a master whom he had served, loved, and followed in so many dangers, and calling upon Auchendrane to honour God by confessing the crime he had committed. Mure the elder, on the other hand, boldly replied, that he hoped God would not so far forsake him as to permit him to confess a crime of which he was innocent, and exhorted Bannatyne in his turn to confess the practices by which he had been induced to devise such falsehoods against him.

The two Mures, father and son, were therefore put upon their solemn trial in 1611, and, after a good deal of evidence had been brought in support of Bannatyne's confession, all three were found guilty. The elder Auchendrane was convicted of counselling and directing the murder of Sir Thomas Kennedy of Culzean, and also of the actual murder of the lad Dalrymple. Bannatyne and the younger Mure were found guilty of the latter crime, and all three were sentenced to be beheaded. Bannatyne, however, the accomplice, received the King's pardon in consequence of his voluntary surrender and confession. The two Mures were both executed. The younger was affected by the remonstrances of the clergy who attended him, and he confessed the guilt of which he was accused. The father, also, was at length brought to avow the fact, but in other respects died as impenitent as he had lived; and so ended this dark and extraordinary tragedy."

NOTE.—No doubt, as Sir Walter Scott says, the putting of James Mure to the torture was done at the direct order of the King; but the Monarch was instigated to this course by the Earl of Cassillis, whose letter to the King is still preserved in a manuscript volume in the Advocates Library, and runs thus:—

"MOST SACRED SOVEREIGN,—

It may please your gracious Majesty, I have taken this boldness, upon the further trial of the treacherous murderers of my uncle, the Laird of Culzean, and of the boy who carried the letter of his dyett, committed by the Laird of Auchendrane and his son; and now further cleared by the great pains and care of my Lord Chancellor, who has brought them to such contradictions in their depositions that all indifferent men may be persuaded of their guilti-

ness of both these murders. Nothwithstanding whereof, they still continue in ane denial. I would most humbly beseech Your Majesty that it might be your Majesty's gracious pleasure to grant a warrant to the Chancellor and Council of Scotland to put them to the Boots, where through they may be brought to a more evident confession. So, most heartily wishing Your Majesty long prosperity and happiness for ever, —I remain, Your Majesty's most humble Servant and subject,

CASSILLIS.

Edinburgh, the third day of December, 1608.

To the KING, his maist excellent MAJESTIE.

NOTE.—While the Earl of Cassillis was thus endeavouring to accomplish his end by stimulating to the most rigorous conceivable methods of extorting confession, he had been, at the same time, making doubly sure. Satisfied of the guilt of the Mures, he had not neglected revenge in the ordinary feudal way, in the event of the criminal proceedings miscarrying; and he had therefore concluded an agreement with his brother, the Master of Cassillis, for the assassination of the Laird of Auchendrane, on the terms of the following bond:—

"WE, JOHNE EARLE OF CASSILLIS, Lord Kennedy, &c., Binds and Obliges us, that howsoon our brother HEW KENNEDY of Brounstoun, with his complices, takes THE LAIRD OF AUCHENDRANE'S life, that we shall make good and thankful payment to him and them of the sum of twelve hundred merks, yearly, together with corne to six horses, aye and until we receive them in household with oursel: Beginning the first payment immediately after their committing of the said deed. ATTOUR (*i.e.*, moreover) howsoon we receive them in household we shall pay to the two serving gentlemen the fees, yearly, as our own household servants. And hereto we oblige us, upon our honour. SUBSCRIBED with our hand AT MAYBOLE, the 3rd day of September, 1602.

JOHNE ERLE OF CASSILLIS."]

July 17, 1611.—JOHNNE MURE of Auchendrane, elder; JAMES MURE, younger of Auchendrane; and James Bannatyne of Chapeldonall.

Dilaitit of art and part of the treasonable Murder of the deceased SIR THOMAS KENNYDIE of Culzean, Knight, Tutor of Cassillis, under Trust, &c., committed by the said Johnne Mure of Auchendrane, elder, in form and manner and at the special time set down in his Dittay. And also, for the treasonable murder of the deceased WILLIAME DALRUMPILL, in Air; committed by the said Johnne Mure, elder of Auchendrane, James Mure, younger of Auchendrane, and James Bannatyne, in form and manner also contained in the Dittay, produced by our sovereign lord's Advocate against them.

PURSUERS.—James Kennydie of Culzean, as son to the deceased Sir Thomas Kennydie of Culzean, Knight, Tutor of Cassillis; Bessie Dalrumpill, as mother to the deceased Williame Dalrumpill; Sir Thomas Hammiltoun of Byres, Knight, Advocate to our sovereign lord for his highness' interest.

PRELOCUTORS FOR THE PERSONS ON PANNELL.—Mr Johnne Russell, advocate; Mr Thomas Nicolsone, advocate; Joseph Miller, advocate.

My lord Advocate produced the Dittay under-written:—

Dittay against Johnne Mure, elder of Auchendrane; James Mure, younger of Auchendrane; and James Bannatyne, sometime in Chapeldonane.

JOHNE MURE, elder of Auchendrane, James Mure, younger of Auchendrane, and James Bannatyne, sometime in Chapeldonane, Ye, and every one of you, for your own parts respectively, are Indicted and accused of the heinous, cruel, and treasonable crimes underwritten; FORASMUCH as by Act of Parliament, made by our sovereign lord and Estates of this Kingdom, in the month of July 1587 years, cap. 51, it is statute and ordained, that the murder or slaughter of whatsomever our sovereign lord's lieges, where the party slain is under the trust, credit, assurance, and power of the slayer, all such Murder and Slaughter to be committed after the date of the said Act, the same being lawfully tried and the person dilaitit, found guilty by an Assyse thereof, shall be Treason; and the persons found culpable shall forfeit life, lands, and goods. AND TRUE IT IS that ye, the said Johnne Mure, elder of Auchendrane, having, without any just cause, conspired the Murder of the deceased SIR THOMAS KENNEDIE of Culzean, Knight, in the month of Januar, or thereby, 1597 years, accompanied with seven or eight of your complices in the said enterprise, came to the Towne of Maybole, and being surely informed that the said Sir Thomas was then supping, upon the . . day of the said month of Januar, in the house of Sir Thomas Nisbet in Maybole, and was to pass, after supper, from that part to his own house; ye, and your said complices, bodin in feir of weir (*i.e.*, arrayed in warlike manner), with hagbuts and pistolets, and other forbidden and unlawful weapons

dairnit (*i.e.*, concealed) yourself, under silence of night, about nine or ten hours at even, in an obscure place by the which the said Sir Thomas Kennedie's passage lay; and, so soon as ye perceived him, ye fiercely set upon him, pursued him with all violence and cruelty for his slaughter, shot and fired at him a great number of shots of hagbuts and pistolets, and still chased and pursued him, until by the Providence of God and relief of honest neighbours, he was delivered from your cruelty. For the which wild and barbarous offence, ye being summoned to underly the law, (was) forced by your own notour guiltiness to go to the horne. THAT feud and enmity was shortly thereafter removed, not only by public and sworn reconciliation made betwixt the said Sir Thomas Kennedie and you, the said Johne Mure of Auchendrane, but also confirmed and strengthened, by alliance and marriage of your eldest son upon the said Sir Thomas his daughter; whereby the said deceased Sir Thomas was drawn under such trust, assurance, and friendship with you that he, lipning (*i.e.*, trusting) altogether to the same, upon the tenth day of May the year of God 1602 years, being of intention to ride to Edinburgh for his lawful business and having no less care of your turnis (*i.e.*, affairs) than of his own, he sent his servant Lancelot Kennedie to write advertisement to you, that he was to take his journey towards Edinburgh upon the next day, which was the eleventh day of May 1602 years or thereby; to the effect ye might meet him upon the way, at the Duppill, a little be-west the burgh of Aire, and inform him of such business as ye would desire him to do for you in Edinburgh, which advertisement, being written at desire of the said Lancelot Kennedie, by Mr Robert Mure, then schoolmaster of Aire, your kinsman, he sent that his Letter to you, with a scholar boy, being in his school for the time, called Williame Dalrumpill; which letter coming to your hands that afternoon that it was written, the deceased Walter Mure in Cloncaird being then in company with you, in your place of Auchendrane, ye dispatched back the said Williame Dalrumpill, in haste, directing him to return to Maybole with diligence, and to deny that he had met with you, or delivered the Letter to you; And incontinent thereafter, consulted and resolved with the said deceased Walter Mure of Cloncaird, to advertise Thomas Kennedie of Drumurquhie, your gude-brother (*i.e.*, brother-in-law) of the certainty of the said deceased Sir Thomas Kennedie of Culzean's journey, and of the way which he intended to ride, advising the said Thomas Kennedie of Drumurquhie to use that occasion to Murder the said Laird of Culzean, in revenge of the Slaughter of the deceased Laird of Bargannie; whereof the said Laird of Culzean was altogether innocent; And conform to your said devilish resolution, ye, having advertised and persuaded, and instigated the said Thomas Kennedie of Drumurquhie to enterprise the said treasonable Murder, as well by your message sent to him as by another Letter sent by you to him with . . . Makadam, your eldest son's servant for the time; the said Thomas Kennedie of Drumurquhie and the said deceased Walter Mure of Cloncaird, accompanied with five or six of their complices, umbeset the said deceased Sir Thomas his highway, near the part where he had trysted to meet you, and upon the said eleventh day of May 1602 years, by your advertisement, council, and instigation foresaid, cruelly and treasonably Murdered and slew him, under trust, credit, and assurance; of your causing, command, counsel, and ratehabition (*i.e.*, confirmation); for the which treasonable crime the said Thomas Kennedie stands forfaltit by Act of Parliament. Notwithstanding whereof ye, at all times since the said treasonable Murder, assisted and supported the said Thomas Kennedie, both within this country and since his going forth thereof; and have kept ordinary intelligence and correspondence with him. AND YE, the said Johne Mure of Auchendrane, as art and part of the said cruel and treasonable Murder, ought and should be forfaltit, and underly the punishment of treason for the same. Like as, ye, fearing the discovery of your guiltiness of the said Treasonable Murder, by the taking, trial, and examination of the said Williame Dalrumpill, for eschewing thereof, ye caused quietly convey him to your place of Auchendrane, immediately after the said Murder; and caused your wife keep him quiet, sometimes within the same barn and sometimes in the turnpikeheid (*i.e.*, the top of the circular staircase;) appointing James Cuninghame, your servant, to carry his meat to him for the most part, and to lie in bed with him; keeping him very quiet and secret from all others. And nevertheless, finding that, partly by his wearying to be kept as a close prisoner, and partly by the discovery by some of your servants, who got knowledge of his being in your house, that he might be more publicly discovered, and ye thereby tried (*i.e.*, found on trial) guilty of the said Murder, ye sent him to Loch Ransay in Arrane, to the Laird of Skelmurlie, (Sir Robert Montgomery), your friend (*i.e.*, your blood relation), convoyed by your servants, Johne Mure, called *the Baron*, and James Gordon, now stabler in Edinburgh,

and at that time your household servant; where he, being detained for your cause, a long space, and he likewise wearying to remain in a barbarous country, among rude people, who nothing regarded him, being a stranger to them, living under a counterfeit name of Williame Mure, as ye had directed him; after some discord betwixt him and one of the Laird of Skelmurlie's servants, he came back to you to Auchendrane, where you caused keep him darned (*i.e.*, concealed) in the barn and turnpike-heid respectively, till you learned that your friend, James Mure of Fleit, was going to the Warres in the Low Countries; and then ye, by yourself and your Lady, persuaded the said James to take the said Williame to Flanders with him; which he consenting to do, your wife gave to the said James a naig, to help to make the said Williame's expenses; and ye recommended to him the careful and safe transport of the said Williame Dalrumpill, and sent the said James Gordoun, your servant, to convoy them, and await upon them, to the Place of Cauldwell, on their way to Leith. Like as, the said James Mure of Fleit sent the said Williame to Flanders to the Warris; where he served divers years, and received divers wounds, and sustained many other miseries in the same. Wherethrough he, becoming desirous to return to his native country, ye no sooner heard of his hamecoming, but incontinent thereafter ye sent for him to the dwelling-house of Walter Mure in Glenheid of Auchendrane; and thereafter upon the . . . . . day of September, or thereby, the year of God 1607 years, ye directed the said James Cuninghame, your servant, to convoy him from the said House of Glenheid to James Bannatyne's house of Chapel-Donald; and casting you (*i.e.*, contriving) to foregather with him by the way, ye, the said John Mure, elder of Auchendrane, and ye, the said James Mure, eldest son and apparent heir of the said Johne Mure, elder of Auchendrane, meeting with the said Williame Dalrumpill in the highway, betwixt Auchendrane and Chapel-Donald, ye kept company with him by the space of eight miles, and held divers purposes, speeches, and conferences with him; tried of him the estate of the Low Countries, and sundry other matters; till ye, coming altogether to the house of Chapel-Donald, ye the said Lairds of Auchendrane, desired the said James Bannatyne to keep the said Williame Dalrumpill, whom ye then named 'Williame Montgommerie' till he should understand further of your purpose; and sending upon the morn thereafter, being Saturday the . . . . . day of September 1607 years, for the said James Bannatyne, ye, the said Johne Mure, elder of Auchindrane, desired him to bring to you to the sands of Girvan the said Williame, about ten hours at even; wherein he obeying you, at his coming with the said Williame, he and you, the said John Mure of Auchendrane, and James Mure, your eldest lawful son attending them; and at your meeting, ye, the said James Mure demanding where the boy was? And the said James Bannatyne, shewing to you where he had lighted from behind him (*i.e.*, alighted from horseback on which Bannatyne and Dalrymple had 'rode double') he passed forward to you, the said Johne Mure, elder of Auchendrane; who, shewing to him that boy was he who brought to you the letter of advertisement of Culzean's diet before his Murder, and that ye having used divers means to put him by the way, for eschewing the discovery of your part and guiltiness of the said Murder, he still returned within the country; whereby ye, fearing that he should be the means of your wreck, ye were forced to resolve to make quit of him. And the said James Bannatyne, persuading you rather to give him somewhat and send him away of new, when, as he had almost persuaded you, and that he and ye were returning towards your son, to move him to allow of the said resolution, so soon as ye approached near unto him, he cruelly invaded the said Williame Dalrumpill for his Slaughter, rushed him to the ground, and, setting his knees upon his arms, he put his hands in the said Williame's throat, and therewith worried and slew him. In the which fact, ye, the said Johne Mure, elder of Auchendrane, helped, with your own hands to hold him down and smore (*i.e.*, smother, suffocate) him. And incontinent thereafter ye, the said Johne Mure, elder of Auchendrane, and James Mure, your son, and ye, the said James Bannatyne, taking a spade and schule, ready prepared by the said James Mure for the purpose, cast (*i.e.*, dug) holes in the sand to have buried him; which still shutting, and filling with sand and water, so that ye were not able to get his corpse covered, ye, the said James Mure, younger of Auchendrane, and James Bannatyne carried his dead corpse in the sea, so far as ye could wade, and left his corpse there to be carried to the main sea by an outerly (*i.e.*, off-shore) wind; notwithstanding whereof, within five or six days thereafter, the wind and tide brought back the dead corpse of the said deceased Williame near to the part where ye had murdered him. Which being tried, (*i.e.* investigated) and the authors of his murder researched, by all lawful means, the constant and universal bruit (*i.e.*, report) of the whole

people of the country blamed you, and every one of you, of the same. Like as, in truth and in verity, ye three are the very and only Murderers and Slayers of the said deceased Williame Dalrumpill, under your trust, credit, assurance, and power; in respect that he was known to you, the said Johne Mure, elder of Auchendrane, at the times and in manner before specified; and was not only known to you, the said James Mure, younger of Auchendrane, when he was a scholar in Maybole, and when he was kept in the place of Auchendrane, in Anno 1602 years, before his going to Arran, and after his backcoming therefrom to Auchendrane; but also at his going from Glenheid to Chapel-Donald, when ye, the said Johne Mure of Auchendrane, and James Mure, your eldest son, convoyed him to the house of Chapel-Donald, recommended him to the said James Bannatyne, and left him in the keeping of the said James Bannatyne; and thereafter sent for him to come to you to the sands of Girvan; which message he obeyed, and most willingly and readily came to you; when he, being under your trust, credit, assurance, and power, ye treasonably slew and murdered him in manner above written. And you, and every one of you are art and part thereof, and ought to be Decerned to forfeit life, lands, and goods, and to amit all lands, heritages, tacks, steadings, rooms, possessions, tiends, cornes, cattle, goods and gear, titles, profits, commodities, and rights whatsoever, directly or indirectly pertaining to you, or either of you, at the committing of the said Murders or sensyne, or to the which ye, or any of you, had right, claim, or action.

[NOTE. The Mures contested the relevancy of the indictment in a number of particulars, the recitation of which does not seem necessary to the purposes of this compilation. In every instance their contentions were repelled, and a Jury, composed entirely of gentlemen unconnected with Ayrshire, or with the Mures, impannelled. Thereafter a large number of depositions were submitted to prove the receipt of Sir Thomas Kennedy's letter by Mure, elder. Mure's knowledge of Culzean's murder, the keeping of Williame Dalrumpill in the house of Auchendrane, the sending of Dalrumpill to Arran, then to Flanders; Dalrumpill's residence at the house of Walter Mure of Glenheid on his return from the Low Countries; the bringing of Dalrumpill from Glenheid to Chapel-Donald, and from that to the Girvan shore, and the connivance of James Mure in guilty knowledge, and afterwards in the murder of the unfortunate young man. To these the Mures made lengthened answers. They contended that Bannatyne's confession was in no way to be respected because, among other things, "he stands yet at the horne unrelaxed"; because he "is under the censure of excommunication, and so is neither God's man nor the King's"; because "he is second and third of kin to the Laird of Culzean and the Earl of Cassillis," and because he had obtained promise of his life as the price of his confession. The allegations and contentions of the respective parties are of legal, rather than historical interest, and those further interested are referred to Pitcairn, where they will be found at length].

VERDICT OF THE ASSISE.—Which persons of Assyse, after accusation of the said persons on pannell, by Dittay, of the Treasonable and cruel Slaughters and Murders respectively, above specified, and swearing that article thereof, anent the murder of the said Williame Dalrumpill, by the said Bessie Dalrumpill, his mother; and after production of the whole depositions above written, and other writings and probation for clearing of the Pannells' guiltiness of the said crimes, by our said sovereign lord's Advocate; the said persons of Assise removed altogether furth of Court, to the Counsal-house of the said Tolbuthe; where they, by plurality of votes, elected and chose the said Sir James Scrymgeour of Dudhope, Knight, Chancellor: Reasoned and voted upon the crimes contained in the said Dittay, and whole circumstances thereof; and being ripely and at length advised therewith, together with the whole writings and probation used and produced by our sovereign lord's Advocate, for instructing thereof; together with the Pannells' objections proponed by them, and their prelocutors against the same, with my Lord Advocate's answers made thereto; they re-entered again in Court, where the said persons of Assyse, by the mouth of the said Sir James Scrymgeour of Dudhope, Knight, their Chancellor, Pronounced and gave forth their determination under-written, subscribed by the said Chancellor's hand, whereof the tennour follows.

"The Assyse, for the most part, after reasoning and voting upon the first article of the said Dittay, find JOHNE MURE, ELDER OF AUCHENDRANE, to be Guilty, culpable, and convict, of art and part of the treasonable and cruel Murder of the deceased Sir Thomas Kennydie of Culzean, Knight, committed in form and manner contained in the first part of the Dittay. And siclyk, the said persons of Assyse, for the most part, find and declare the said John Mure, elder of Auchendrane, and JAMES MURE OF

AUCHENDRANE, YOUNGER, and either of them, to be guilty, culpable and convict of art and part of the treasonable and cruel Murder of the deceased Williame Dalrumpill, in manner specified in the Dittay. And last, they all, in one voice, find and declare the said JAMES BANNATYNE, called of Chapel-Donane, to be Guilty, culpable and convict of art and part of the said treasonable Murder of the said deceased Williame Dalrumpill, committed by the said persons, in manner contained in the Dittay."

SENTENCE.—After the pronouncing and declaring of the which determination and deliverance of the said persons of Assyse "THE JUSTICE, in respect thereof, by the mouth of Alexander Kennydie, dempster of Court, decerned and adjudged the said Johne Mure of Auchendrane elder, James Mure of Auchendrane younger, his eldest son and apparent-heir, and James Bannatyne, called of Chapel-Donane, and ilk ane of them, to be taken to the Market Cross of the burgh of Edinburgh, and there, upon a scaffold, their heads to be struck from their bodies; and all their lands, heritages, tacks, steadings, rooms, possessions, teinds, cornes, cattle, inside plenishing, goods, gear, titles, profits, commodities, and rights whatsoever, directly or indirectly pertaining to them or any of them, at the said treasonable murders or sensayne; or to the which they, or any of them, had right, claim, or action, to be forfalt, escheat, and inbrought, to our sovereign lord's use; as culpable and convict of the said treasonable crimes." Which was pronounced for DOME.

PAPERS ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE TRIAL OF THE MURES OF AUCHENDRANE.

(NOTE.—Pitcairn subjoins several papers illustrative of the trial of the Mures and o various incidents in the great Carrick feud. It is not necessary to give these at length. In different form and language they but repeat, in the main, the story already told. One of the most prolix of these is a letter by Sir Thomas Hamilton of Byres, Knight, the Lord Advocate, to a nobleman at Court, but very evidently written in order to be submitted to the King, whom he idolises and upon whom he fawns in a style that evokes the remark from Pitcairn that "King James must have been much more of a glutton than an epicure!" In the introduction to his letter Sir Thomas Hamilton refers incidentally to "His Majesty's gracious pardon granted to James Bannatyne." We subjoin one or two extracts bearing on different circumstances incidental to the tragedy.

THE TRAGEDY ON THE SANDS.

"James Bannatyne did bring Dalrumpill, about ten o'clok in the night, to the sands of Girvan, where Johne Mure, elder of Auchindrane, and James Mure, younger of Auchindrane, were attending their coming. At meeting, auld Auchindrane began to declare to his man Bannatyne that he had been in perpetual fear since Culzean's slaughter, to be discovered as guilty thereof; that, for eschewing the danger, he had sent furth of the country this Dalrumpill, who brought to him the letter of advertisement of Culzean's diet; and when as he had matters at that point as by his travelis (*i.e.*, pains), young Culzean and Thomas Kennedie were made to allow of the conditions which he had set down for reconciliation of the quarrel, for the Murder of Culzean's father, this man was unhappily returned, by whom his whole device would be disappointed, and his danger renewed. That he saw no remeid but to rid Dalrumpill furth of this life, since he could not otherwise be kept out of his awy. Whereunto Bannatyne making answer that it was a cruel purpose to murder the poor innocent youth, specially seeing they might send him to Ireland, to be safely kept there, till the agreance was perfected betwixt Culzean and Drumurquhie, Auld Auchindrane seemed to incline somewhat to that expedient; and in the uncertainty of his resolution, turning towards the part where his son stood, on purpose, as appeared, to have consulted with him, young Auchindrane perceived them no sooner near, but, thereby assuring himself of their assistance, in execution of that which his father and he had formerly concluded, he did violently invade Dalrumpill, rushed him to the ground, and never left him till, helped by his father, with his hands and knees he had strangled him. And then, thinking to have buried him in the sands, whereby no mark should remain which might raise any suspicion of his Murder, in that place, they pressed to make use of a spade and shoule which young Auchindrane had brought with him for the purpose; but finding that no hole was sooner cast by them in the sand but was as soon filled again with the water and sand that shot in it, they were forced, after long travel, to draw him in the sea, as far as they durst wade, hoping that an utterlie (*i.e.*, off-shore) wind should carry his dead corpse to the coast of Ireland. Which not succeeding according to their expectation, the corpse staying all the next day in the very place where they left it, they passed that day in marvellous anxiety, for fear of discovery;

till the next night, searching the corpse to have buried it, they could not by any search find it, because the wind had carried it to the sea, where it was tossed continually, by the space of five nights, till the Friday following, that God, designing to use that means for manifestation of their hid iniquities, brought Dalrumpill's corpse back to the very place where, six or seven days' before, he had been murdered; which being perceived by some country people, the corpse was carried by them to the next churchyard and there buried.

But the report of so strange an accident having raised suspicion in the Earl of Cassillis and some of his friends, who had heard of Dalrumpill's returning in the country, that it might be he had part in that turn, it was thought fit by the Earl and divers of the Ministry of that bounds that intimation should publicly be made in Aire, being the head burgh of the shire, and at the parish kirks to landward, that such a corpse, being found dead upon the coast, was to be seen at the Church of Girvan. Which being accordingly published, the corpse was raised, and, among others, sighted by Dalrumpill's mother and his sister, who after dilligent consideration of the proportion and marks of his body, assured themselves and others that he was the murdered man."

JAMES MURE'S CONDUCT UNDER TORTURE.

"Young Auchindrane, partly confirmed by the strength of his great courage, unhappily bestowed in proofs of that kind, and partly by the crafty advises and advertisements of his father convoyed to him by the counsel of some their well-wishers, who took the advantage of the carelessness of their keepers; he did endure the extremity of that insufferable torment with such constancy, that whereas it was hoped that the verity of the accusation and extremity of pain should have forced him to a true Confession, the event proved so far contrary, as he resolving with silence, and sufferance of a short pain, to redeem his liberty and to add the hope of many years to his life."

JAMES BANNATYNE'S CONFESSION.

"The Earl of Abercorne, by secret and instant dealing with some of his friends in Ireland, found means to take James Bannatyne and bring him to Scotland to his house of Paisley; where Bannatyne, after the rehearsal of all that tragedy of Dalrumpill's murder, having subjoined the manner of his own taking, wherein he seemed to acclaim some promise for the safety of his life, the Earl did forthwith judge that dealing so contrary to his honour and his Majesty's intention, as he instantly assured Bannatyne that he never did intend to have him upon any such conditions. But being unwilling that when he should be presented to justice he should reproach to him the break of condition made by any whom he had employed for his apprehension, whereby the hearers might take liberty, either to believe nor not believe Bannatyne's affirmation, and thereby bring his honour in question, he gave to him liberty to go free out of his house, with assurance that for the space of ten days he should be unpursued by him, or any of his, giving him space to provide for his safety, either within this realm or by removing furth thereof; advertising him therewithal that that term being expired, he would bestow his own travels and the assistance of all the friends he had in the world to apprehend him, wherever he might be had, either quick or dead! So Bannatyne being left to a bodily liberty, which never freed him of terror of conscience and fear of death, as well in respect of the sword of his Majesty's Justice hanging above his head, as that endless pursuit which he knew the Earl of Abercorne did intend against him; but most of all, in respect of his knowledge that Auchindrane had of late devised and practised many means to cause murder him in Ireland, thereby to prevent the danger which Bannatyne's Confession might bring upon them, if, by falling in the Earl of Abercorne's hands, he should have been brought to Edinburgh, examined, and confronted with him and his son. Being also informed that when young Auchindrane caused deal with the Earl of Dunbar for his liberty, he had offered that his cautioners should bring in Bannatyne either quick or dead. The Earl had very judiciously answered that he did well believe that young Auchindrane, being free, would unfeignedly do his best to bring in Bannatyne's head, whereof for his part he would be sorry, as losing one of the best means of the discovery of their guiltiness, whereof he in his conscience was resolved. These considerations did force Bannatyne to prostrate himself at the Council's feet, offering himself, without any condition, to reveal the whole truth of that Murder, and to verify all he should say in Auchindrane and his son's face, hoping by the assistance of God's good spirit to bring them to a confession of that undeniable truth; only craving that if the Council found him true in all his speeches, and to be a means to discover the wickedness of these men, who, having drawn him unhappily in the participation of their mischief, had so ungratefully and wickedly devised to Murder

himself, their Lordships would be pleased to recommend him to the King's mercy, whose pleasure he should joyfully fulfil, were it in his life or in his death."

THE SPIRITUAL "EXERCISE" OF THE MURES BEFORE EXECUTION.

"Neither could wise men neglect to admire how loath the devil is to quit his possession of a sinner's soul, having so contended to maintain Auld Auchindrane in his denial and impenitence that after his conviction, when his constancy could nothing avail him, there was no appearance that he should either confess or publicly repent the crimes for which he was condemned: until after a notable conflict between his son (young Auchindrane) and the devil, who still persuaded him, that there was no hope of mercy to a sinner, who had wilfully and oft perjured himself with horrible execrations; some godly Bishops and Ministers, by long conference and many comfortable assurances given to him of the readiness of God's free grace and mercy to all sinners, who, with unfeigned repentance, are displeased for their sins; and can dispose their souls to hope for pardon, and beg it at His hands:—he was moved to make plain and particular declaration of the unhappy murder of Dalrumpill, committed by his father and himself, according to Bannatyne's confession and their conviction. Whereby, finding his conscience wonderfully disburdened, and his soul fully replenished with assured hope of God's abundant mercy; did cheerfully dispose himself to death, as the only way to a better and ever permanent life; and using his best persuasions to his father, that as they were conjoined in blood, and likewise conjoined in the equal guiltiness of so heinous a sin, so he would consent that they might join in repentance and true conversion; he did so much prevail with him, that being assisted by the godly travails of the Bishops and Ministers, the father was brought to so free and sensible contrition, as, in the last hours of their life, and at the time of their death, their godly resolution, to make haste to receive the eternal joys which they expected assuredly at God's merciful hands, gave as great comfort to the beholders of their Execution, as their wicked lives had been offensive to those who knew the actions thereof."

[NOTE.—On 28th June, 1611, sentence of Horning was passed upon John Mure, cook in Auchendrane; Thomas Wallace, servitour to Auchendrane; Andro M'Alexander, sometime servant to James Bellenden (or Bannatyne) in Chapeldonane, and other two, in respect that they had failed to appear and give evidence against the Mures. In all probability their absence may be attributed to the influence of the Mures themselves.

It will be seen from what follows that the alleged bleeding of Dalrymple's corpse in presence of Mure's grand-daughter may have been actually used in evidence in the trial. It is thus cited as a precedent for the determination of a case as late as 1676.]

In the course of the pleadings betwixt a committee of the Estates of Parliament and Mr James Mitchell, &c., it is recorded:—"But if any man shall object that about the LAIRD OF AUCHENDRANE, I answer: 1st, There is no parity in the cause; because he was accused of an horrid and private Murder, where there was altogether penury of witnesses, and not of a duty controverted by Apostates: 2dly, GOD, in a sovereign and singular way, *witnessed it from Heaven, by his own immediate hand, and proved the deed against him!* viz.—the Corpse of the man Murdered, being buried in Girvan Kirkyard, as a man cast away at sea and cast out there, the Laird of Culzean, whose servant he had been before, dreaming of him in his sleep, and that he had a mouse mark under his left breast; and when he awoke out of his sleep, upon search, found it to be true—came to the place, and taking up the Corpse out of the place where they were buried, found him to have been Murdered, upon which he summoned in all the men in that part to touch the Corpse, as the custom was in such cases; and all compearing, except the said Laird and his son, who were the murderers; and his dwelling-house and family being near to the place, a young child of his, MARIE MURE by name, seeing the people, went to the place; and when she drew near to the Corpse (to the admiration of all the people) *did spring out upon her an abundance of blood!* upon which they were apprehended and put to trial.

[NOTE.—There is evident inaccuracy in the details here given, but the citing of this case as a precedent seems sufficient to justify the conclusion that the Blood Test was applied in the case of the body of Dalrymple, and that the superstition under which Divine intervention was claimed, was in full force at the time of the tragedy on the sands of Girvan. Even at a later date, Sir James Dalrymple, when he was Lord Advocate, arguing against the contention of opposing counsel that such a thing was an impossibility, contended for the "Wonderful Providence of God in this kind of discovery of murder;"

and Sir George MacKenzie, in the same case, addressing the jury, asserted that "God Almighty himself was pleased to bear a share in the testimonies which we produce; that Divine power which makes the blood circulate during life has oft-times, in all Nations, opened a passage to it after death upon such occasions, but most in this case." The sentence that followed was that the accused should be "hanged on a gibbet till he be dead, and his tongue to be cut out and burned upon a scaffold; and his right hand to be cut off and affixed on the East Port of Haddingtoun; and his body to be carried to the Gallowlee, betwixt Leith and Edinburgh, and there to be hanged up in chains."]

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF SCOTLAND, IN REFERENCE TO THE FEUDS AND CONFICTS RECORDED IN THE PRECEDING TRIAL, &c.

(1) *Warrant of Priry Council (apud Edinburgh, decimo tertio, Decembris, 1601), commanding the Earl of Cassillis to set Mure of Auchendrane and others at liberty.*

FORASMUCH as it is understand to the Lordis of Secrete Counsall, that at the last CONFLICT and Combat, which happened and fell out betwixt JOHNNE ERLE OF CASSILLIS, and certain his friends, on the one part; and GILBERT KENNEDY OF BARGANY, and certain his friends on the other part, upon the eleventh day of December instant; the said Erle took and apprehended . . . . . MURE OF AUCHENDRANE, DAVID KENNEDY of Maxuelstoun, and certain others of the said Laird of Auchendrane and Burganyis' servants; and presently has them in his custody and keeping; and in respect of the Slaughter and blood which happened and fell out at the last Conflict, it is very suspicious that the said persons should be suffered to remain in the power and hands of the said Erle. THEREFORE, the said Lords Ordain Letters to be directed, charging the said Erle of Cassillis to desist and cease from all proceeding against the persons foresaid, tane and apprehended by him at the said Conflict, by virtue of his office of Bailliary, or of any power, or commission granted to him for that effect; discharging him thereof and of his office in that part; As also, charging the said Erle to cause set the said Laird of Auchendrane and David Kennedy of Maxuelstoun, and all other persons tane by him at the said Conflict, at free liberty, within the town of Air, without any violence or harm to be made to them by the way, within twenty-four hours next after the charge; under the pain of rebellion, &c. And if he fail, &c., to denounce him rebel, &c.

(2) *Warrant of Priry Council (apud Halyruidhous, quarto Februarii 1607), to denounce John Mure of Auchindrane and others.*

SEDERUNT—Lennox, Chancellar, Angus, Mar, Wyntoun, Fyvie, Vchiltrie, Newbottle, Spynie, Roxburgh, Lowdoun, Maister of Elphingstoun, Ross, Dunkeld, Kinross, Haliruidhous, Treasurer, Comptroller, Justice Clerk, Privy Seal, Advocate, Collector, Clericus Registri, Elimosinar, Kilsyth, Tracquair, Brunt-Iland, Sir Patrik Murray.

ANENT our sovereign lord's Letters, raised at the instance of Sir George Home of Spott, Knight, his Majesty's Treasurer, and Mr Thomas Hammiltoune, his Majesty's Advocate, for his highness interest; making mention; That where, upon the eleventh day of December instant, JOHN MURE of Auchindrane, Thomas Kennedy of Drummurchy, Hew Kennedy of Bennan, Walter Mure of Cloncard, Hector Kennedy in Bargany, Johne M'Alexander in Auchinregane, Thomas M'Alexander his brother, James Bannatyne in Chapeldonane, Johne Cathcairt of Carltoun, John Cathcairt younger of Cairltoun, Johne Ecclis of Kildonane, Williame Irving, Thomas Wallace, servitour to the Laird of Bargany, Moses Lokhart, brother to the Laird of Bar, David Kennedy in Maxuelstone, Alexander Kennedy, son to Hew Kennedy in Craigneill, Robert Kennedy, servitour to Walter Mure in Cloncard, Mairtene Wilsoun in Newwark, Robert Campbell in Carmychell, Williame Cauldwell of Lochirmoss, Williame Kennedy in Garfer, John Mure of Craigskeane, Johne Mure in Quhytleyis, Robert Wallace of Holmistoun, George Angus, notar in Air, Symone Gilmour there, Peter Hammiltoun there, Andro Kennedy there, Henry Dalrumple there, Hew Kennedy there, James Blair there, Johne Blair there, George Dumbar there, George M'Almont there, James Dumbar there, and . . . . . Kennedy, cooper, there, with convocation of his highness lieges, to the number of . . . . . persons; all bodin in feir of war, with jacks, corsets, secrets, lances, and other weapons, invasive, and with muskets, hagbuts, and pistolets, prohibited to be worn by the laws of this realm, Acts of Parliament, and Secret Council, came furth of the burgh of Air, towards the town of Mayboill, resolved and disposed to have attempted some high enterprise against JOHNE ERLE OF CASSILLIS, in case they had found him upon the fields; LIKE AS, they percieving the said Erle and

some of his friends and servants to be upon the fields beside the town of Mayboll, they immediately set upon them, shot and discharged a number of muskets, hagbuts, and pistolets among them, wherewith they slew the deceased . . . . . Spence, master of household to the said Erle, and hurt and wounded sundry other of his servants: Wherethrough, as they have convoked his highness legions in arms, without power or commission, so have they violated his highness laws and Acts of Parliament, made against the bearing and wearing of hagbuts and pistolets; and with that, they have broken his highness' peace, to the disturbance and shaking loose of the whole estate of that country, without (*i.e.*, unless) remeid be provided. And anent the charge given to the said Johne Mure of Auchendrane, &c., to have compeared personally, before the King's Majesty, and Lords of Secret Council, at a certain day byegone, to have answered to the premisses, and to have underlain such order as should have been tane thereanent; as also, touching the observation of his highness' peace and keeping of good rule and quietness in the country, under the pain of rebellion and putting of them to the horne; With certification to them, and (*i.e.*, if) they failed, Letters should be direct *simpliciter* to put them thereto; Like as at more length is contained in the said Letters, executions and indorsations thereof. Which being called, and the said Pursuers compearing personally, and the said Johne Mure of Auchendrane, &c., being oftimes called and not compearing, the Lords of Secret Council therefore Ordain Letters to be direct, to denounce them rebels, and put them to the horne, and to escheat.

[NOTE.—Of an earlier date (February 1602) is the Decreet of Absolvitor by the Privy Council in favour of John Earl of Cassillis and others 'for convocation of his Highness' lieges, and bearing and wearing of hagbuts and pistolets, breaking of his Highness' peace.' On December 11th of the year mentioned the Earl of Cassillis and his friends and retainers "to the number of . . . . hundred persons, all bodin in feir of weir," (*i.e.*, armed for battle) with jacks, steel bonnets, corsets, lances, and other weapons invasive, and with hagbuts and pistolets, prohibited to be worne by the laws of this realm and Acts of Parliament, came in hostile and warlike manner furth of the town of Mayboill, and lay at await for the deceased Gilbert Kennedy of Bargany, his friends and servants, as they were coming the highway from the Burgh of Air, towards the said Laird's dwelling-house, and invaded and pursued them of their lives, shot and discharged a number of hagbuts and pistolets at them, wherewith sundry of the said Laird of Bargany's company were hurt and wounded; and at the same time they shamefully, cruelly, and unmercifully slew the said deceased Gilbert Kennedy of Bargany." The Earl of Cassillis pleaded in defence 'two Commissions, subscribed by his Majesty, and passed his Highness' Register and Signet; the one against Blaquhane (*i.e.*, Blairquhan) younger, Girven Mains, Hew Kennedy of Bennan, Thomas his brother, and Walter Mure of Cloncard, whose names are insert in the said Commission with his Majesty's own hand, knowing their misdeeds, giving power to the said Earl of Cassillis to convocate his Highness' lieges, and to search, seek, take, apprehend and persue, *with fire and sword*, the persons above written, and to wear hagbuts and pistolets to that effect, as the said Commission of the date the ninth day of July, the year of God 1601, at length bears: and the other Commission direct to the said Erle, for the pursuit, taking, and apprehending of Robert Gordoun of Barnerino, Alexander Gordon of the Hillis, William M'Neillie, Alexander M'Kie of Balscir, and Thomas Kennedy of Drummurchy as suspect guilty of Murder, Oppression, and Reset of Theft." . . . "The Lords of Secrete Counsall finds and declares the two Commissions above written, produced by the said Erle, to be good, valid, and sufficient; and that thereby he had good power and authority to search and seek the said persons, and use the said Commissions. And therefore the said Lords assoilzies, simpliciter, the said defenders from that part of the said Letters, touching the convocation of his Highness' lieges, and bearing and wearing of hagbuts and pistolets, and breaking of his Highness' peace; and decerns them quit therefrom in all time coming, and of all offence (that) may be imputed to him in the using of the said Commissions." The preceding paper is interesting, in so far as it gives the names of a number of those who sided with Mure of Auchindrane and Bargany in their conflict with the Earl of Cassillis. In this are given the names of some of those who stood by the Earl in the conflict with the Laird of Bargany, viz.:—John Corrie of Kelwod, Hew Kennedy of Penquhirry, Johne Davidsoune of Pennyglen, Oliver Baird of Cullenzie, Patrick M'Ilveane of Gremmat, Johne M'Ilveane younger of Gremmat, Hew Ken-

nedy of Garryhorne, otherwise called the Guidman of the Ballot, George Fergusoun of Traif, Alexander Schaw, tutour of Gremmat, Johne Mure of Wodland, Johne Mure of Kingmurloch, Johne Dik of Barbesburie, (*i.e.*, Barbestoune), Hew Kennedy of Dangar, Anthone Kennedy younger of Balsalloch, Johne Mure, merchant in Mynyboill, Quintene Crawford younger of Sillihoil, Johne Kennedy of Smetoun, Williame Kennedy of Turnberry, Johne Campbell in Barnefurd, Johne Smith younger in Cassillis, Johne Calderwode in Girnerstoune, Johne Fultoune in Giltryhill, Johne Fultoune in Mosend, Alexander Baxter, porter, Williame Harlaw, haghutter, Robert Fultoun in Giltryhill, Johne Fultoun in Bargennoch, David Fultoun his brother, Thomas Fultoune in Giltrie, Thomas Wode in Cassillis, Quintene Tod in Cassillis, James Davidsoun in Burnemouth, John Davidsoun his son, Johne M'Colme in M'Colmstoun, Johne Malcome in Blairbony, Johne Bell in M'Colmestoune, Thomas Morton in Cassillis, Johne Morton his brother there, Johne M'Cary there, Johne Smythe in Dalrumpleholme, Williame Hunter there, James Corry in Bray of Dalrumple, David M'Quhorta in Batlewand, Williame Campbell in Bra there, Robert Cunynghame in Babeistoun, Johne Smyth in Drumgoblis, &c.]

(4) *Act of Priry Council, the Laird of Cullane against William M'Phadrik.*

On August 3, 1609, Letters were ordained to be sent to "Officers of Arms, Sheriffs in that part" to put to the horne Williame M'Phadrik or M'Phedrice, servitour to the Laird of Girvanmains, for intercomuning with Thomas Kennedy, Thomas M'Alexander, Thomas Wallace, and Williame Irving, murderers of Sir Thomas Kennedy of Culzean, and notably for having warned Thomas M'Alexander of a plot for his apprehension and bearing him away on his own horse out of reach of pursuit.

PROCEEDINGS IN PARLIAMENT AS TO THE FORFEITURE OF THOMAS KENNEDY OF DRUMMURCHIE, FOR THE BURNING OF AUCHINSOULL.

In July 1604 Thomas Kennedy of Drummurchie was summoned to compear before the Estates of Parliament for the burning of the Place of Auchinsoull. This incendiarism was an incident in the great Carrick feud, and is said to have been committed by Thomas Kennedy that he might obtain possession of the person of the Countess of Cassillis. He accomplished his object. Naturally the forcible abduction of his Countess excited the hostility of the Earl, and he at once took proceedings against the abductor. Thomas Kennedy failed to appear, was found guilty of Treason, and was put to the horne. The sentence follows:—

"DOME—The Court of Parliament shows for Law, that the said THOMAS KENNEDIE of Drummurchie has committed Treason in Raising of Fyre and Burning of the said Place of Auchinsoull, pertaining to the said Duncan Crawfurde, the time and manner specified in the said Summons of Treason, pursued by his highness said Advocate, for his grace's interest, against him; and therefore Finds and Declares, That the said Thomas Kennedie has omitted and tynt and Forfeited for ever, all his landis, heritages, rooms, possessions, goods and gear whatsoever, belonging to him any manner of way, and which he has had, might have, or claim, within the Realme of Scotland; and Decerns the same to have appertained and to appertain to our said sovereign lord, to be confiscate, and to remain with his highness, as his property, in all time coming. And also Finds and Declares, that the said THOMAS KENNEDIE has omitted and tynt his fame, honours, and dignity; and he to be punished as a Traitor, conforme to the Laws of this realme. And this I give for Dome."

PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE DEADLY FEUD BETWEEN THE EARLS OF EGLINTON AND GLENCAIRN, &C.

(1) *Letter, the King to the Priry Council 'for trial of the authors of the Conflict betwixt the Erle of Glencairne and the Master of Wintoun, at St Johnstoun.'*

Richt trustie and welbelovit Cousins and Counselloris, We greet you well. The report of that broyle which did fall furth in the TOWN OF PERTH, betwix THE ERLL OF GLENCAIRNE and THE MAISTER OF WYNTOUN, immediately before the last session of Parliament keepit there, did offend us much; specially in respect of the circumstances of the time and place, when as (beside the great hazard in bringing many of THE NOBILITIE then present in the town, to have entered in blood with others, and thereby to have revived that now mortified monster of DEADLY FEUD) it was a ready way to have stayed the progress of that session of Parliament, to the great prejudice and hurt of the Estate, and to the hindrances of our services there. Whereupon, We are moved the more earnestly to desire the knowledge of the beginning of the misdemeanour, and whereupon the

same proceeded, and which party was first author thereof. And therefore, have thought meet, hereby, to will you to take particular trial before you of the first beginning of that trouble, how the same fell furth, and which of the two parties began the invasion; and therewith to try whether it was upon a precogitate or forethought intention, or if the same fell furth by mere accident, or *chaud mile*, unintended by any of the two parties against the other? And hereof, willing you to certify us, particularly, of the whole truth of that matter, in all the circumstances of the same, our pleasure is, that, in the mean time, special direction be given by you to our JUSTICE GENERALL, HEICHE CONSTABLE, or their deputes, or to any other Judges appointed by Commission to proceed criminally in the trial of that matter, to desert all days, and to suspend and continue all processes intended before them by any of these parties against other, aye and until our further pleasure be signified unto them, after We have duly considered the trial taken by you in that matter. And so we bid you right heartily farewell. From our Manour at Greinwiche, the 6 of August, 1606.

JAMES R.

To Our trusty and well-beloved Cousins and Counsellors the Erll of Dumfermling, our Chancellor and remanent Lords and others of our Counsell of Estait, in our Kingdom of Scotland.

(2) *Letter, the Privy Council to the King; as to Deadly Feud between the Earls of Eglinton and Glencairn, and Lord Sempill, &c. August 27, 1606.*

According to your highness direction, signified unto us by your Majesty's faithful Counsellour, THE ERLL OF DUNBAR, we did call and convene before the Counsell the ERLLIS EGLINTOUN and GLENCAIRNE, and the LORD SEMPILL, with a number of their friends, whom we knew to have chiefest interest in the present FEUD standing betwixt them, and after that we had declared unto them the great pains and travails which your sacred MAJESTIE took in your own person, for extinguishing of the name and memory of DEADLY FEUDS, what good success had followed upon your MAJESTIES travails, in some of the greatest FEUDS of this Kingdom, and how that your MAJESTIE had now recommended unto the COUNSALL the removing this FEUD, which has been of so long continuance, and by reason of the minority of the ERLL OF EGLINTOUN could not until now take effect, we burdened them with a submission conforme to the Act of Parliament. THE EARL OF GLENCAIRNE pretended that there was a quarrel betwixt him and EGLINTOUNE, and that a Submission was unnecessar; and, in the end, he directly refused to submit, because the Submission imputed against him of the Slaughter of deceased the ERLL OF EGLINTOUN, which he would never take upon him, but offers him ready to take trial of the laws for that Slaughter, which trial, in his part, ought to precede the Submission. We remembered him of a Submission subscribed by himself in this same matter, agreeable, in every word, to that which was now desired when this matter was last in hands afore the COUNSELL in Februar 1604. But he, standing upon his innocency of that Slaughter, refused to submit. EGLINTOUN made no refusal, but pretending some excuse upon the shortness of the warning, he duly craved a continuation to be advised with his friends, because this was the first time that ever he was charged in this matter, for his MAJESTIE; and the LORD SEMPILL very freely, for your MAJESTIES satisfaction and obedience, without any ceremony, offered to submit. We have granted unto EGLINTOUN, with his own consent, the 20 day of November next, to be advised with his friends, and to come provided in this matter. We have no assurance of the ERLL of GLENCAIRNE'S obedience, but we hope that he will conform himself to your MAJESTIE'S pleasure; AND THE LORD SEMPILL will be obedient . . . . This is all we have done at this meeting, whereof we have thought meet to make your sacred MAJESTIE acquainted; to the effect your highness may give direction therein, as your MAJESTIE shall think good; which we shall prosecute and follow out. And so, praying God to bless your sacred MAJESTIE with a long, happy, and prosperous reign, We rest,

Your MAJESTIE'S most humble and obedient subjects and servants.

(The subscriptions have not been transcribed by Sir Thomas Hamilton, in his transcript.)



CUNINGHAME

TOPOGRAPHISED,

BY

Mr TIMOTHY PONT,

A.M.

CUNINGHAME TOPOGRAPHISED,

By Mr TIMOTHY PONT, A.M.

[NOTE.—In 1876 the Maitland Club issued the volume from which we take Timothy Pont's "Cuninghame Topographised." The full title of the volume is "Cuninghame, Topographized by Timothy Pont, A.M., 1604-1608, with Continuations and Illustrative Notices by the late James Dobie of Crummock, F.S.A., Scot., edited by his son, John Shedden Dobie. Glasgow: John Tweed, 16 South Portland Street." Of Mr Dobie's extended and valuable continuation and enlargement of the facts recorded by Pont, we do not avail ourselves. Our object, here as elsewhere, is to reproduce a historic record. There are many books of reference, parish and otherwise, of late date, which are available to the student. Not so Pont's narrative. It is enshrined alone, for all practical purposes, in this volume of the Maitland Club, and is not therefore, generally or popularly, available.

"It would appear," says the editor, Mr John Shedden Dobie, "that Timothy Pont and his brother Zachary were sons of Mr Robert Pont, minister of the West Church of Edinburgh, and matriculated in St Leonard's College, St Andrews, in 1579-1580, obtaining their degree of M.A. in 1583-1584. Their father, Mr Robert Pont, became Provost of Trinity College, Edinburgh, and had, along with the prebends, the disposal of various church lands belonging to it. . . Timothy Pont was appointed minister of the parish of Dunnett, in the county of Caithness, in the year 1606. He could scarcely have spent much of his time in his ministerial charge as, both before and after that date, he must have been actively engaged in his arduous and important survey."

"His taste," says Mr Dobie, the author of the Continuations and Illustrative Notices of the Maitland Club volume, "lay in mathematics and similar studies and pursuits, and he is said to have been the first projector of an Atlas of Scotland. Having given up his parochial charge, he personally surveyed all the counties and isles of Scotland, and made drawings of the monuments of antiquity and such other curiosities as were fit subjects for illustrating his descriptions. The most complete of these surveys and descriptions which he has left, at least so far as has been discovered, is that of Cuninghame. He seems to have gone over the district with some leisure, as he enumerates no fewer than 348 names of places, and has omitted few of any importance; though occasionally he is inaccurate in fixing their exact locality. Thus, in the parish of Dalry, he makes the fort on Caerwinning Hill stand near to and overtop the Garnock, while it is upwards of a mile distant from the nearest bend of that river. Pont frequently alludes to his personal visitation of places. He says of Kilwinning, "The structure of this Monasterey wes solid and grate, all of freestone cutte. The Church faire and staitly after ye modell of yat of Glasgow, with a fair steeple of many score foote of height, yet standing when I myselve did see it." He refers to the Records of the Monastery as if he had perused them; and he says of Robert Fergushill de eodem, whose residence was in the parish of Kilwinning, that he was "ane honest and descreit gentleman," which implies that he had had personal intercourse with the Laird, and most likely had partaken of his hospitality. The actual date of his survey can only be assumed from the names of proprietors who were alive at the time of his visit to Cuninghame. There are several instances of such names given by him, and these range from 1610 to 1620. This would lead to the conclusion that, soon after resigning his ministerial charge at Dunnet, he had commenced his more arduous duties as a topographer. The exact date of his death has not been ascertained, and all who now appreciate his labours must regret that they cannot tell whefe his remains were interred, at which many would readily concur in rearing some fair memorial to his memory."

According to Mr John Shedden Dobie, Pont's Survey is more likely to have taken place before than after the year 1608. This conclusion he founds on the date of the ownership of certain properties, and on a letter written on 24th January, 1648, by Gordon of Straloch to Sir John Scot of Scotstamet, in which he says that Pont "himself, unaided, undertook this work more than forty years ago. He travelled afoot over the whole kingdom, which no other person before him had done; he visited all the islands, inhabited for the most part by barbarous and uncivilized people, of whose language he was ignorant, and where he was often despoiled by cruel robbers, as I have heard him relate; and suffered all the hardships of a difficult and dangerous voyage, without growing weary, or ever losing his courage. Being to return to his home after so much wandering and to prepare for bringing to perfection the descriptions he had made; but he could not accomplish his intention by reason of the avarice of printers and booksellers, who refused the necessary charges for its execution; and while he waited for some more favourable occasion to present itself, death took him from us, before his time, in the flower of his age. His heirs to whom he had left his papers, in their ignorance neglected them, and no care being taken of them they were likely to be consumed by vermin, and in danger of being wholly destroyed, when James the First, King of Great Britain, a most liberal prince, being informed of them, gave directions for purchasing them from his executors, that they might be published. But oh! Good Lord! what unhappiness. It was as if these papers had fallen from the smoke into the fire; they came into the hands of persons who had the design to conceal them, like the mysteries of Ceres." Neither Chalmers, the author of the "Caledonia" (1824), nor George Robertson, who wrote a topographical description of the district in 1820, seem to have been aware of Pont's work, which for all practical purposes, save for the maps with which he embellished it, and which were published in Blaen's Atlas (Amsterdam) 1655, lay dormant until resurrected by Mr Dobie of Crummock with great care and the labour of many years—a labour it is regrettable to add, he did not live to see consummated, he having died in 1853. I have interfered with the original spelling as little as possible. Some changes are unavoidable, however, without a specially cast fount of type.]

CUNINGHAME HOW SO NAMED AND YE ETIMOLOGIE THEROF.

Albeit ye certaine and undoubted causse quhy this countrey is named (as by a generall name Cunyngham) be somequhat difficle to be knouen, yet nevertheless it is supposed by most pairt of best judgment (amongest quhome is Buchanan) that it is so named because that in it hath some tyme beine ye Royall habitatione of a king, and Hamin which signifieth some time a habitatione, as if one would say the King's habitatione or duelling, for so much does Buchanan sho was in these wordes—"Cuningamia ad Septentriones procurrit et Glottam submovet ac prope ad justi amnis modum coercet. Nomen Regioni Danicum est quod eorum lingua regis domicilium significat, quae res indiceo est eam Danos aliquando tenuisse (*i.e.* Cuningham runs to the North and (withdraws, or rather) cuts off Glotta and bounds it almost like a regular river. The name of the district is Danish; it signifies in the Danish language 'King's Home,' a proof that the Danes at one time occupied it)—and surly quho will ponder how this countrey hath of old beine named by so noble a name, and hath been so providently singled out (as it were beyond others in excellency) for ye habitatione and duelling of a king, they sall find that it is not without causse, and improperly so named considering ye good qualities quherwith this countrey is so notably indewed, being Richly stored with all thesse good gifts of Nature wich are able to manteine and furnish a King's Royal duelling.

ANTIQ. SILURIAE PARS.

Hector Boetius affirms that of old this countrey wes reckoned for a pairt of ye ancient Siluria, remembered by Ptolomie in his geographicall (descriptione) of Albione, altho later topographers hath reckoned Siluria within ye limits of England.

LAIT POSSESSOR OF IT SOME 336 YEARS AGOE.

This Cuninghame was formerly ye possessione of EDWARD DE BALIOLO quho usurped ye croune of Scotland, and amongest others grate heretages and lands had this lykwayes by his father's donatione. It honoured lykwayes with a title of honour Sir Richard Moruell, Grate Constable of Scotland, quho by K. Mal: ye 4 was created Lord of Cunninghame, Largis, and Lauderdaill, as appears by the old records of ye Monastery of Kilwining.

LIMITTS OF CUNINGHAME.

CUNINGHAME lays in the West pairts of this Kingdome, marcheing towardes ye North and North-east with ye countrey of Renfrow, being

limitted therfrom by Kelley-burne, by the Reuch-hill, or as some doe think ye Creich or Marche-hill, and properly by the hills of Thowescraige Brunt hill, the Hill of Staick; and ye hill of Misty-law, wich tract of hills doeth make on the one side streames to run to ye Southe and upone the other side to ye North. It is lykwayes devydit from the countrey of Rainfrew by the river Maiech and by Loch Whinnoch and pairtly by the Caldwell-moores and that of ye Meirinis (Mearns). On ye east it marches with Clydisdaile, being devydit from ye same by a natural march stone, viz., a steipe round and heigh toped rockey montaine arrysing upe in the are al alone by it selve, and that out of a very low soyle. This montaine is called vulgarly LOW-DOUN HILL; and it is a common limitt distinguishing three countrees one from ane other, to witt CUNINGHAME, CLYDSDAILE, and KYLE.

On the south it bordereth partly on Kyle, being disjoined from it by the River Iruyne, and partly it hath a part of the Virginian Occean or dunbrittone fyrth touching upon the south, south-west, and west, quher it beholds ye Iylandes of Cumbraes and Bute. As also with a pairt of ye Countrey of Kowell, being severed therefrom by the strait inlet of Dunbrittone firth called Clyds-mouth.

THE FORME, NATURE, AND FERTILITY OF YE SOYLE OF CUNINGHAME.

CUNINGHAME exceeds not 30 miles in lenth and not much above 10 in breadth. As for the general situatione of this countrey, it declyneth from North and North-east towards ye South and South-west for ye most pairt of the parochin of ye Largis, wich is very ample, togider with a good portione of ye parishes of Dal-ray and Kil-burney ar farr more heighly exalted then the rest of Cuninghame, swelling into a hillisch tracte and the quhole rest of ye countrey subtendid and prostrat under ye former until a grate deal more low flatt and plaine soyle. Except that generally through quhole Cuninghame, that tracte bordering on the Shriffdome of Renfrow is alwayes highest; from quhence by ane eassey decressing it falleth (as it wer) by degrees lower and lower unto the sea coste, and brinck of ye River Iruyne, the highest quherof yeilds excellent good pasture for catell.

DEGREE I.

This degree is verey weill wattred with frech springes, clenish brooks, and plesant burns runing often upon bottoms of free stone quarries quherof there is good stone. Also there is grate variety of situations in this Degree quherin the height and marches of ye same towards ye Shriffdome of Renfrow the countrey is plentifull of Moorefoule of two kyndis verry delicat, also the brooks and burns and sundry frech water loches abounding with divers sorts of fisches, ther trouts being ye best. The brooks of Lug-durr, Dow-visch, and Glais-durr yeildes good sporte to falkoners; this degree abounds with all sorts of watter foule, partridges and hares.

DEGREE 2D.

The 2d degree and pairt of this countrey being a grate deal lower then the former, and for ye most pairt 3 or 4 mylles breadth is much more fertile in corne and store, being of a deipe, flat, clayeich soyle much enriched by the Industrious inhabitants lymeing of their grounds, quherby the pasture heir since this experiment was practised is become much more luxuriant then before, whence it is that this pairt of ye countrey yeilds a grate deall of excellent butter (as all ye countrey besyde) but especially the Parishes of Stewartoune and Dun-lopp. The butter of this countrey in effecte serves a grate pairt of ye Kingdome, one aker of ground heir yeilding more butter then 3 akers of ground in any of ye nixt adiacent countreyes.

DEGREE 3D.

Now the 3d and last degree and portione of this countrey approaching nixt to ye heme and bordour of ye sea coaste and two or 3 myles distant therfrom, is a Sandey Soyle, yet indifferent fertile. Also it is to be considered that albeit ye surface of ye soyle of this countrey be fertill and full of profitt, yet after raine it becomes very troublesome to ye travellers, (being of itself of a spongeous nature sucking the humiditie). Morover this country is beine of a long tyme verry peaceable except somequhat in the late age troubled with ye intestine broyles of ye housses of Glencairne and Eglintone and ther adherents wich are nou in effect all forgotten, and by resson of ye long peace it hes injoyed from forraine invasione it is become very Civil and well cultured: So that for the quantity it (is) marvelously well beautified with goodly buildings and edifices of Noble and gentlemen, and ye duellings of ye yeomanrie verry thick poudred over the face of this countrey, all for the most part weill and comodiously planted and granished. So that one may much wounder how so small a bounds can contain so well so many people having no trade to live by bot ther husbandry, and ye rent arraysing from the ground except a few living on the sea coste by

fisching This tracte is so well planted that at ye first men wold think grate plottes of it to be continued in quhole woods, especially about Steuartoune and ye brinck of ye river of Iruyn quher ye housses and ye duellings ar so thick for ye space of 3 or 4 myles alonges that river that weill travelled men in divers parts of Europe (affirm) that they have seine some walled cities not so weill and neir planted with housses so neir each to other as they ar heir, wherthrou it is so populous that at ye rinning of a bell in the night a few hours, ther has beine seen conveine 3000 able men weill horsed and armed.

Ecclesiastick Government of Cuninghame.

This countrey in such matters as concerns ye church governiment and order is subject to ye Jurisdictione of one presbitrey con(sis)ting of ye quholl ministry therof, erected in the Burgh of Iruyn quher they doe weekly assembl evrey Thursday to exercise ther jurisdictione in such affairs as belonges to ther chairge.

Civill Government.

Quheras other provinces be usually named shyres becausse they ar govrned by a shriffe in civill maters, this countrey is named a Baliffrie, and is civilly governed by a Baliffe and his officers, wich office doeth heritably belonge to ye Earls of Eglintone, nothwithstanding also this countrey is comprehendid under the shriffdome of Aire, and under ye authority of ye shriffe theroffe, quhosse officer may lousse the arrestment made by the officer of ye said Baliffe, bot so may not ye said Baliffe's officer lousse ye arrestment made by the said shriffe's officer.

Batells most memorable Foughtin in this Countrey.

Ther was a most famous and notable batell fought upon the North syde of ye toune of ye Lairgs by Alexander Steuart, Liuetenenant Generall of ye Scotts armey against Acho, King of Noruay, quherafter a most creuell conflicte the said Acho with his armey wes put to flight and lefte sexteine thousand of his armey dead upone ye place. This batell was foughtin in Anno 1263. At this batell some wretters record that K. Alexander ye 3d wes present at it, but ye place (of) triumph remains to this day knouen to posterity by the Name of ye batell of ye Lairgs.

Faiers and Mercats in Cuninghame.

Market tounes and faires at parish churches in Cunninghame :—

Irwyn is a Royall burgh, and in it yeirly are 3 fairs, 1st, 15 of Aguste, 2d, 8 of September, 3d ye 20 of October.

Kilmarnock every Setterday, a grate market.

Loudoun ye 9 of October.

Kill-macks in October.

Dunloppe 1 of November.

Stuartoune 4 of September

Kill-winning 20 of Januarii.

Byith 8th of Agust, as also every Setterday.

Kill-burney on St Brandon'sday, 16 of May.

Dal-ry 20 of Julay.

Kill-bryde 1 of Februarii.

Lairgs, 8 Junii, St Columbau's day.

Montans and Hills for especiall hight and grateness in Cuninghame.

Creuch-hill.

Knock-hill, on the tope of wich ar vestiges of ancient entrenchments.

Theeues-Kraig.

Brunt-hill.

Hill of Staich.

Mystie-Law, becausse it is almost ever covered with dark mists and thick fogges.

Lou-doun-hill, on tope of wich there is ane grate sprink of Sueeit water, yielding a plentiful stream.

ANE ALPHABETT

Of the touns, parisches, touers, villages, Hamletts, and housses of name within the countrey of Cuninghame, with necessary Remembrances on diverss of them.

A.

Achin-darroch, nether, wich Irisch or ancient Scotts word signifies a fold or cast of manured soyle amongest oacke trees or within ane ocke woode.

Achin-darroch, over.

Achin-Rinoch.

Achin-gairth.

Achin-ary-well.

Achin-corsy is the possessione of ye Lords Boyd.

Achin-cloich, or ye fold of stons, or stoney fold, ye possessione of Johne Craufurde.

Achin-Gray belonges to ye Laird of Keraland.

Achin-shangan.

Achin-gounyeir.

Achin-skyich belonges to Johne Dunlope, Laird therof.

Achin-Medds.

Achin-tybers. Achin being ane Irich word signifies a folde or a crofte of land gained out of a wyld ground of before unmanured, and Tybers or Taubyrr as some think a well, doeth make ye name Achin-tybers to expresse a well-fold or

a fold quherin a wel-spring is. It is ye hertage of ye Earlles of Cassillis.

ACHIN-HERVY. The etimologie of ye word signifiing a folde or manured crofte of corn upon a yellow knoppe, or ye fold of ye yellow knoppe. It is an ancient old touer, weill planted, and does belong to a gentleman of the name of Cuninghame quho is Balyie of theLord-schippe of Kilmauers, called ye Laird of Achin-hervy.

ARD-DYIRR,or Knoppes, quher indeed ther are many knoppes upon sands, that laye objected to ye wind upon the sea shore. And hard by it ther is a grate knoppe or mole of earth quheron, as is constantly affirmed, ther hath beine a grate castell seated, the place retaining the name of Castill hill to this day.

ALAN-WOOD.

AAIRD-DACH, or Ard-daach, as some interpret it; a heich plott or daach of land layand upon a know.

ARD-NEILL or Neel's knope, ye possessione of Archibald boyd, Laird of portincrosse and Ardneel.

ARDROSSEN CASTELL, so named in respect it is situatted on a suelling knope of a rocke running frome a toung of land advancing from ye maine land in ye sea, and almost environed with ye same, for Ross in ye ancient Brittich tounge signifies a Biland or peninsula. This castell is very strongly and weill bulte, having in it many roumes and a spring of fresh watter, which makes it the more strong. In this castell ther is a touer named ye red touer, and in it a vault called Wallace lardner, for this castell being in ye possessione of ye Englisch, Wallace used this stratageme. He sett a housse hard by the castell a fyre, that thesse quho kept ye castell not suspecting aney fraud came out to ye eresken (*i.e.* rescue) of the housse quhome they (imagined) by accident to have taken fyre. Bot Wallace with a weill-armed company gifs them a very hote welcome and kills them, everey mother's sone, and forthwith forces ye castell and wins it. In this deep vault in ye bottom of ye red touer flang he ye carcatches (*i.e.* carcases) of thesse Englich, wich to this day gave it the name of Wallace lardner. Ther is (one) thing to be admired in the fontaine of fresh watter wich is in a vault in this castell, for it, like to ye Sea, ebbs and flows two several times each 24 houres.

> Its bankes to pass doeth tueiss assay,
> And tueisse againe reteir each day.

The reason is from ye ebbing and flowing of ye salt sea wich environs ye rocke quheron ye castle standes, and at each surge, with horrible repercussions regorges the fresh water, not letting issew from its spring and so makes the fontaine swell. This castell was for many ages possessed by the Barclayes, for in a charter of Sir Richard Morvell, Lord Cuninghame, &c., to ye monastery of Kilwinning, Richardus de Berclay dus de Ardrossen is a wittnes. Now it belonges to ye Earlls of Eglintone.

ARDROSSEN KIRK is a goodly parochiall curch neir adjoining to ye said Castell.

AKAT-OVER, a pretty dwelling belonging to Alexander Cuninghame laird therofe.

AKAT-NETHER belongs to ye laird of Johnstons within the countrey of Renfrow.

AKINHEAD.

ANNAND-HILL belonges to ye Earle of Eglintone.

ANNOCK FLUVIUS. This is a pretty litell river and falls into Irwyne. From this river ye boundes nixt adjacent was of olde named STRATH-ANNOCK, especially the parish of Steuart toune.

ANNAT-YAIRDS.

APPLE HIRSTE.

ASSHIN-YAIRDES belonges to one Alexander Cuninghame.

ASTING-POPPLE.

ASSLOSS, or Achinloss, it belonges to James Assloss, laird of ye same, being bot a verry small thing, yet hes predicessors has keipt it some hundered of yeirs.

B.

BEYGLIES.

BLACKHOUSE is the possessione of Patrick Montgomerie.

BREED-SORROW is the possessione of the Laird of Blare, and being a small hamlett it is so named becausse of grate sorrow it bred amongst nighbours debettaing and contesting for ye heritable right thereof.

BREDDOCK-LIE is ye possessione of ye Laird of Capringtone.

BLACK-CRAIG is the Lord Boyds.

BLACK-MOSSE is the Laird of Kelsolands.

BROUNE-MOORE is the possession of Heu Hamiltone.

BLACK-CRAIGE, a rocke so named in the sea neir to ye poynt called Brig-vird.

BEDLEN is a proper touer with orchards adjoyning therto. It is the possessione of Andro Craufurd, laird thereof.

BEDLAN-CUNINGHAM is the Laird of Capringtons.

BRAIDLIE belongs to Robert Harvy.

BLAIR-CASTLE is ane ancient castell and strong dounioun, weill beautified with gardens, orchards, and partiers seatted on the brinke of the river Garnock. It is the ancient patrimoney and heritage of ye Lairds of Blare de eodem, to quhome a grate portione of the

parish of Dal-ray does lykwayes belonge. The place giving nou name to ye possessor showes it to be locall. Blair, in our old Scotts language, as Buchanan interpritts it, signifiing 'Solum arboribus liberum.' Bot in former ages the auners of their lands (quhen as Sir Richard Morawell foundett the Abbay of Kil-winning) were surnamed Francisci as the ancient records of ye foundatione of this abby yet extant bears wittnes.

BARQUOIS belongs to ye Laird of Kersland.

BAR-KYIPE is Kerslands lykwayes.

BYITH-KIRK is a parochiall church situate neir the laick of Kilburny.

BROADSTAINE, a pretty dwelling, now the heritage of Heu Montgomerie. This dwelling yields a verry pleasant prospecte to ye beholders; it belonged of old to ye Lord Liddell.

BOGEHALL belongs also to this Laird of Broadestane.

BLAA-LOCHE, id est Lacus Pallidus. So named becausse quhen the firmament is most serene and cleir then it is palide and dead coloured contrair to all uther un-corrupt and sueit watters.

BLACK-DYCKES, the possessione of ye Lords Ross.

BROUN-CASTEL-HILL, a pleasant grine montaine on tope of wich remains to ye spectators ye vestiges of ane ancient fort.

BOORLAND, over and nether, ar ye possessions of ye Earls of Cassiles. Heir of old duelt Gothred de Ross, a famous and potent nobleman of grate reputatione quho, having his residence heir, enjoyed ample possessions abrode in ye countrey and was for ye tyme Shriffe of Aire. Hes jurisdictione then extending over Carrick, Cuninghame, and Kyill; of quhom in the minority of David ye 2d our annals remembreth thus—ac iuuante conatus eorum Gotofrido Rossio præfecto iuridico Aerensi, breui totam Carrictam, Coilam, ae Cuninghamiam in suas partes traxerunt.

BLACK-LAW-HILL.

BARTON-HOOME, of old ye possesione of philipe horsse.

BORROW-LAND, ye possesione of Robert Broune.

BENESLIE.

BAGRA.

BONSTONSHAW, the inheritance of Johne Boyd.

BONSTONE-LOCH, a frech watter laick, abounding with fisch.

BORROW-MILLS belongs to Robert fairlie, dom. de eodem.

BOLTREE-HILLS belongs to ye Earle of Eglintone.

BRYDOKIRK, the possesione of Robert Greine-law.

BROUMLANDS belongs to Johne peibliss, lait provest of Irwyn.

BENESCROFTE is ye Lord Loudons.

BOIGSYDE belonged to ye Laird of Glengarnock.

BURNEMOUTH, the place of Birth of that notable preacher William Aird, quho, being extraordinarily callid from a maissone, became a famous preacher and detector of the Romisch whoore in ye begining of the reformation of our church.

C.

COOGY-HILL.

CAM-YIR-HILL, a hill separatting the Shriffdome of Renfrow and the countrey of Cuninghame, wich should be callit Quam-yir-hill.

CASTELL-HILL quher ar the remanders of ane ancient Castell wich hath beine ther upone that hill.

CAMFELL, the possesione of the Laird of Kersland.

COLDGREEIN.

CARLENNGE, it belongs to ye Cuninghame Lairds of Vatterstouns.

CORSBY-TOURE is the habitatione of William Craufurd of Achnaims, by divers thought to be cheiffe of the Craufurds; he holds ye same of ye Earls of Glencairne. This surnamé is verry ancient, and did memorable service under K. Alexander ye 3d at the battell of Largis by quhome ther good service was nobly recompensed with divers grate lands and possesions, according to ye old common Rithme:—

They had Draffenn Methweim, and rich erth Steuinstone

Cameltoune Knockawart and fair Lowodoune

for this King lykwayes they have amongst them a traditione that they had ther armes.

COLHEUCH-GLEN, a possesione of the Laird of Kerslands.

CHAPEL-TOUNE NORTH and SOUTH belongs to ye Lord Ross.

CHAPEL-HILL.

CROS MOORE.

CASTELHILL.

CLEEUES.

CLEUCHART.

CLERCKLAND, ye possesione of Robert Boyd.

CASTELTOUNE, it is ye possesione of Johne Cuninghame.

CROSSE-HILL, a fair weill planted duelling ye possesione of Alexander Cuninghame, Laird therof.

CUTFREE belongs to him lykwayes.

CHAMBERHOUSSES, ye possesione of Johne Caldwell.

CAPRUNSTONE belongs to ye laird of Cuninghamehead.

CRAUFURDLAND CASTELL, a fair building weill planted, belonging to Craufurd therof, with divers small hamletts and villages, their adjacent.

CROOKED-HOME is the Lord Boyds.

D

DYCKES.

DUNIFLETT.

DRUYM-MEAL-LHUN, wich the vulgar interprette the rigging of the medowish moate, is ye Laird of Achinharwys.

DRUYME (*id est*), a back of rigning of ground.

DOCAT-LAND.

DALL-RY (*i*) the hauch or hoome of the river Ry. Altho some thinks ye river to be named from it with ye rest of ye said parochin wich, according to ye conjecture of divers wes formerly called DAL-RY. That is ye Kings hoome. Ther is a litell village their adjoyning to ye said paroch church. The situatione of this paroche of Dalry seims to declyne to ye sunne.

DYSILL belongs to ye Laird of Kersland.

DALMACHLAN.

DUDUPS.

DALGARCAN belongs to John Montgomerie.

DOW-VISCK FLU: black watter, for so it is.

DOW-VISCH-BANCKES. Heir ther is a grate cove, the inermost end quherof is not found; it is by the vulgar named the Elffe housse being of a large bounds within.

DRUYM-BUY (*i*), the yellow backe.

DOCKRAES.

DUNLOPP, ane ancient stronge hous fortified with a deep foussie of watter and planted with goodly orchards. It is also named Hunthall becausse, say they, the ancient possessor therof wes huntsman to Godofred Ross. The quholl bounds and grounds heiraboute, and all Machamoch moore, wes of old a mighte forrest, it belongs to James Dunloppe of that same and cheiffe of hes name.

DUNLOPPE KIRK, prettily seatted at ye confluence of 3 small brookes.

DOWE-CATT-HALL, ye possessione of George Campbell of Steuinstone, a pretty duelling weill planted.

DUBBS, ye possessione of Alexander Parck.

DAWRA, the possessione of the laird of Mongreinan.

DYRCLACH (*i*), a stoney wilderness. It belongs to ye Moore Lairds of Rouallan,

DRUMMOIR belongs to ye Laird of Nether peirstoune.

DALMUSTERNOCH is Rouallans.

DRUYM-CLOICH (*i*), Stoney back is Rouallan's also.

DRUMBRAY.

DAL-WHATSWOODE.

DARNE-VAILL.

E.

EDDELIE BURNE belongs to ye Laird of Monfod.

EASTER-HILL of Byith, a pretty bulding, weill planted, belonging to Johne Cuninghame.

EGLINTOUNE, a fair and stronge ancient houss wich gifs the tytill of earle to ye cheiffe of ye Montgomeries, quho ar Earls of Eglintoune. It is seatted and wattred by the River Lugdurr and weill planted and beutified with Gardens, orchards, and parkes.

EASTER-RAUES.

F.

FORRET OF KYITH.

FLOTE.

FAIRLEYVAIRD.

FAIRLEYLAND, a small yland adjoyning to the harbour.

FAIRLIE CASTELL is a stronge toure and verey ancient, beutified with orchardes and gardins. It belongs to Fairlie de eodem, chieffe of ther name.

FLASCKWOOD belongs to ye Laird of Kelburne.

FOULEVOODE is ye Earle of Cassilles.

FOULE-SHAW belongs to ye laird of Robertland.

FERGUS-HILL, ye habitatione of Robert Fergushill de eodem, chieffe of hes name, ane honest and descreit gentleman.

FAIRLYSCKRIMOCH is ye inheritance of ye Laird of Sorby.

FINNICK.

FLEEMINGHILL.

G.

GAUROCK.

GLAISTERLANDS.

GIFFIN-CASTELL, a stronge old housse anciently belonging to ye Lordes of Lidisdaill quome our Histories promiscuousley name LIDDALIÆ REGULUS ET LIDISDALIÆ DOMINUS. It came to ye Douglaises as a parcell of ye said Barony with ye daughter and heire of that famous Godofred de Ross, sometyme lord of Lidisdaill and Shriffe of Aire. Quho did in this countrey possess all ye landes betuix Spittill burne and Poubaith.

GARBOCH-HILL.

GALLABERREY is ye inheritance of ye Laird of Langshaw.

GOGO FLUVIUS, a small river running by the curch of ye Largs.

GARNOCK FLUVIUS is a pretty river overpassed with three bridges and yieldes plentey of Salmons.

GOUAN-LIE is ye Lord Boyds.

GLENGARNOCK CASTELL is a verey faire stronge ancient and weill bult castell, ye cheiffe fabrick arraysing in three touris of a good height, seated on a rocke under wich glydes the River Garnock. It hes for a longe tyme belonged to the Cunighams Lairdes therof.

GAAD-BERRIE-HEAD ar grate heigh rockes makining a head land and running in the meane occeane.

GLASSDURR FLUVIUS. A prettey small river.

GLASSCHACH [i], a grassey plott.

GRANGE, the inheritance of ye Laird of Cambuskyth.

GROOGAR & GROOGAR-MOURE, the inheritance of David Grhame sometyme of Knock-dolean.

GLEN-FLUVIUS, a small river falling in Irving River.

H.

HANING.

HILL OF KELSOLAND.

HALCARDEN.

HOLL HOUSE.

HALKHIRST, the possesione [of] Erskyne Laird therof,

HALY: belongs to Gavin Blare.

HARDGILL is a small brooke.

HOURETT TOUER, ane old stronge Touer, ye inheritance of David Ker of Kersland.

HUNTARSTOUNE belongs to Robert Huntar, Laird therof.

HINGDOGUE is ye Lord Boyds, over aganist wich upone the other syde of ye River Ry ther is a place named Fycknoch quher hath beine anciently a grate forte and castrametatione.

HASILHEAD CASTLE, a stronge old bulding environed with lairge ditches seatted on a Loch, weill planted and comodiosly beutified. The heritage of Robert Montgomery Laird therof, famous it is for ye birth of that renouned poet Alexander Montgomery.

HALKHEAD-LOCH.

HAPELANDS (i), halffe penney lands.

HEAPELANDS, the inheritance of David Dunlope, Laird therof.

HORSSE IYLE, a small Iyland layand in the sea not far distant from ye castell of Ardrossen wich some think [not] to be so named not from the horsse pastured in it, bot from ye Surname of Horsse of ye wich PHILIPE HORSSE, sone in law to Sir Richard Morwell, quho in old evidences wes stylled PHILIPPUS DE HORSSEY JANITOR COMITIS GALLOUIDIÆ.

HOOMES, so named from ye low situatione therof.

HARROW HILL.

HAYSMURE.

HARE-LAW.

HARROW HILL.

HAGG.

HAGHOLLS.

HILLHOUSSE.

HALL.

I.

JEELSLAND.

JAMESTOUNE.

IRRWYNE FLUVIUS, this is the greatest River in all Cuninghame.

IRRWYNE TOUNE. This [is] the head burrough and cheiffe porte of ye country of Cuninghame, the porte and harbry being now much decayed from quhat it wes anciently, being stopt with shelves of sand wich hinders the neir approch of shipping, the toune is a free Royal burghe, and is governed with a provest and his Ballies, in it is a fair church, and the Ballie Courts of Cuninghame ar ther keipt by the Earle of Eglintoune and hes deputts. Neir to ye toune the River Irwyne is overpassed by a faire stone Bridge, neir to wich wes formerly a frierrey of ye order of ye Carmalitts foundit of old by the Laird of Foulartone de eodem. Ther is plentey of salmons takin in this River, and ye tounes bears for ther armes Arg: a Lyone chained Guells.

JUDAS HILL is the Lord Boydes.

K.

KNOCK, a prettey duelling seatted on the mane occeane and weill planted.

KIRKLAND belongs to James Craufurd of Flottertoune.

KELSO-LAND, the heritage of Archibald Kelso, of that same Laird therof a guid housse weill planted.

KELSOLAND NETHER belongs to William Kelso, Laird therof.

KEEL-BURNE, so named from ye read keel found and digett ther.

KNAGGY FLU.

KELBURNE HEAD.

KEL-BURNE FOOTE.

KELBURNE CASTELL, a goodly bulding weill planted, having verey beutiful orchards and gardens, and in one of them a spatious Rome adornid with a christalin fontane cutte all out of the living rocke. It belongs heretably to John Boll, Laird therof.

KELBURNE FLUVIUS.
KRAIGLY is the Laird Hissellheads.
KNOCK SYDE HILL.
KINGS BURNE FL.
KEM-HILL.
KRAIG HILL.

KAERVINNEN-HILL, it is the Lord Boydes, and hath bene ane ancient strong forte as the ruins to this day bears wittnes, it is named from ye old Scotish word kaer a forte and vinnen, wich Vinnen wes ane holy man or sant that lived neir to this. This stands neir ye River Garnocke and overtops it.

KILLBURNY CASTLE, a fair bulding weill planted, the heritage of Johne Craufurd, Laird therof.

KILBURNY KIRK, the usuall buriall place of ye Lairds of Kilburny and Glengarnock. In ye Cemitery therof ther is a pretty stone monument erected bearing this inscriptione, Heir layes Thomas Craufurd of Jordanhill sext sone to Laurence Craufurd of Kilburney and Jonette Ker hes spouse, eldest daughter to Robert Ker of Kersland quho deceassed ye 15 . . . . This is that famous Capitane Thomas Craufurd under quhosse conducte the castell of Dunbrittane wes surprised of late zeirs.

KILRONSKAN.
KAMMELTOUNE.

KILBRYDE KIRKE, a parochiall church seatted in a fertille soyle neir to wich anciently wes ther a stronge forte.

KIRKLAND, a pretty duelling, the heritage of Gavin Blair.

KALFE FLUVIUS, a small brooke wich falls in ye River Garnock.

KOCKIRDAILL.
KERSHEAD.
KERSLAND.

KNOCKAUART OLIM, ye inheritance of ye Craufurds.

KROCK-RIUOCH.

KARY-LAW-CASTLE or STEVINSTOUNE CASTELL, a fair stronge bulding belonging to ye Earls of Glencairne, quho had ye said Castell barroney parisch and Lordschipe by the marriage of ye Douglass heritrix therof. It belonged in A°. 1191 to ye Lockarts.

KILWINNEN. It doeth beare ye name vinnen of a certain holy man so named wich came from Irland with certane of hes discipells and followers, and heir taught ye Gospell, the place of hes residence retaning still ye name Killvinnin (i), ye church or cell of vinnen. Unto quhome as to notable sante the superstitious posterity dedicatted. The searching out of ye etomologie of this place may (as appeireth) be evidently confirmed by the names of ye adjacent places to this day: as Suy-Innen, that is Vinins seat. Kaer-vininhill. St Vinins velles, fabled by the vulgar, credulous Comons to have issewed of ye tears of this sant. It is affirmed that ye toune and place quher this Abbey of Kilwinin standes wes formerly named SEGDOUNE as the foundatione of the said monastarey beares record. It wes foundit by a Noble Englich man named SIR RICHARD MORWELL, fugitive from hes auen countrey for ye slaughter of Thomas Becckett, Archbischope of Canterburrey (being one of them) in the Rainge of K. Henry 2d of England, quho flying to Scotland wes be the then Scotts king welcomed and honoured with ye office of grate Constable of Scotland, as also inriched with ye Lordeschips of CUNINGHAME, LARGIS, and LAUDERDAILL quhosse posterity for divers generations possessed ye said office and Lands. Nou the forsaid Richard being, as would seime, tuoched with compunctione for ye safety of hes sôule (according to the custome of thesse tymes) did found this Abbey of KILLVINNIN in testimoney of hes repentance. And first of all did bulde ye Queir or Cancell of ye said Abbey church endouing it with diverss lands as namely the 80lb Land of Killvinin after this tennor, Damus forrestam nostram de Killvinin ibidem deo seruientibus ad pascendum porcos eorum et ad exscindenda ligna ad constructionem Monasterii una cum decimis tergorum tam ceruorum quam damarum eiusdem forrestæ. (*i.e.*, We grant our forest of Kilwinning, in the same place, to the worshippers of God to feed their swine and to cut wood for the construction of a monastery, with the tithes of the backs (*i.e.*, the bodies, or hides) of stags, as well as hinds of the same forest). Also AUICKA LONCASTER, wyffe to ye said Sir Richard, with consent of her said husband dottes in puram et perpetuam elimosinam the land of Bytth Batth and Threppe-wood to ye said Monasterey. Item Dorothea de Morvill daughter to ye said Sir Richard and wyffe to Philippus de Horssey accomplisched ye fabrick of ye said Monasterey, and hes sone Dominus Valterus de Horssey confirms to them the same, and the said fundatione, with ye donations and mortifications thereto belonging is confirmed by pope Honorius the 2d A°. 2do. pontificatus sui. Thesse donations and fundations ar also confirmed by K. Alexander the 3d, as also by JOCELINUS DEI GRATIA HUMILIS GLASGUENSIS ECCLESIÆ MINISTER AUTHORITATE EPISCOPALI, &c. The Revenues of this Abbay wer grate and maney by ther proper Lands. The founder therof,

Sir Richard Morwill, layes interrid in the new cemetery of this church, under a tome of Lymestone, framed coffin wayes, of old pollished work with this coate (of arms) on the stone with [out] aney superscriptione or Epitaphe. The structure of thes monasterey wes solid and grate all of free stone cutte. The church faire and staitly after ye modell of that of Glasgow, with a fair steeiple of 7 score foote of height yet standing quhen I myselfe did see it. Heir wer also the Lords Montgomery and Earls of Eglintone interrid. The River Garnock glyds betuix ye toune and abay over passed with a faire stone bridge. Heir it is remarkable that this Monastarey wes foundit in A°. 1191 and destroyed in A°. 1591. It is ye precinct environed with a faire stone wall, within wich ar goodly gardens and orchardes.

Kraignaught-nether is ye possessione of Gavin Hamiltone of Raplauch.

Klonbyith belongs to William Cuninghame.

Kirkwood, ye possessione of Johne Niven.

Kirk-bryd.

Kirkfurd.

Kings Kitchen.

Klonherue belongs to Cuninghame, Laird of Cuninghamhead.

Karmell fluvius.

Knager hill, ye Inheritance of Johne Pebles.

Kuninghame-head Castele, a stronge old dunion seatted on ye brinke of ye River Annock, weill planted.

Knockin-tyber (or knoppe of ye well), the heritage of James Mowatt, Laird therof.

Kilmaers toune, Castle and kirke. The toune is a large village seatted in a good soyle and verey populous. Ye castell is ane ancient stronge bulding belonging to ye Earls of Glencairn, environed with a fair parke called Carmell wod from ye watter of Carmell that runs by it. Ye church is weill bult and is the comon sepulture of ye Earlls Glencairne Lords Kilmauers. Kilmauers, that is ye church or cell of Mawers, alledged by the vulgar a holy man.

Kilmernock toune and kirke is a large village and of grate repaire. It hath in it a weekly market. It hath a faire stone bridge over the River Marnock wich glydes hard by the said toune till it falles in the River Caldur. It hath a prettey church from wich ye village Castle and Lordschipe takes its name. It wes bulte by Locarts Lards of it and dedicat to a holy man Mernock as witnesses ye Records of Kilvinin abbay. The Lord Boyd is now Lord of it, to quhosse predicessors it hath belonged for maney generations. In this church ar divers of ye Lord Boydes progenitors buried, amongs quhome ther is one tombe or stone bearing this inscriptione and coate (of arms). Hic Jacet Thomas Boyde Dominus de Killmarnock qui obiet Septimo die mensis Julii 1432 & Johanna de Montgomery eius spousa. Orate pro iis. There is also ane other tombe not so ancient of Robert Lord Boyds (wheron) is this Epitaph :—

> Here layes that godly, noble, wysse Lord Boyd,
> Who kirk and king and comonweill decord,
> Wich wer, whill they this Jwell all enjoyed,
> Manteind Gouernd and councelled by that Lord.
> His ancient housse (ofte perrilld) he restor'd,
> Tueisse sex and sexty yeirs he lived, & syne
> By death ye thrid of Januar devord,
> In Anno thrysse fyve hundreth aughty Nyne.

Neir also unto this Robert Lord Boyd, Layes interred Robert Last Master of Boyde, quho deceassed in Anno 1597.

Kilmernock Castle, it is a staitly faire ancient bulding arrysing in tuo grate heigh towers, and bult arround courteways with fyne low buldings. It is weill planted, and almost environed with gardens, orchards, and a parke, it belonged first to ye Locartts, Lordes therof, and then to the Lord Soulis, and now the cheiffe duelling almost for 300 yeirs of ye Lords Boyde. Neir to it is ther a stone crosse called to this day Soulis Crosse quher they affirme ye Lord Soullis wes killed. Item, not far from Kilmernock in ye midell of ye River Irwin wes the Read Steuarte slaine after he had receaved a Responce from a witch that he should not perrish nather in Kyle nor yet in Cuninghame, the said river being the merch betuix the tuo and being in nather of them.

Kraigda.

Klonfin.

Kraigduntan.

Kraig-housse.

Krunen.

Karling-craige.

L.

Laibgs, neir this toune did ye Scotts obteine a memorable victory under Alexander ye 3d against Acho king of Noruay, quhosse armey they uterly overthrew, it is a burghe of Barroney. It is a fyne plott extended on ye bank of ye grate occean. Laying low. It hath also a small porte for botts on the mouth of ye River Gogow. Upone ye North syde of ye toune, ther is a pairt called by the vulgar ye prisson-fold quher ther wer a grate nomber of Danes enclosed and taken prissoners at ye batell of Largis. Heir is also a parochiall

churche of ye same name, heir adjoyning the Lord Boyd hath divers lands called NODDISDAILE.

LONGROD.

LAUERROCK-CASTLE.

LADYLAND, a stronge touer.

LOCHEND.

LOCHRIGE.

LYIE.

LUDGAR FLUVIUS issues from Loch-libo.

LAW-CASTLE, a strong grate Dounijon.

LYONE-SHEEILLS.

LOCH of KILLBURNEY, it is ye goodliest frech watter Loch in all Cuninghame.

LOCH-IARGAN, wich in ye ancient Scottish language does signifie Russhy-Loch. It is a pretty frech watter Loche and yeilds store of pykes and eeiles.

LAMBRIDDIN.

LISSENS OVER.

LISSENS NETHER.

LANGSHAW belongs to Neill Montgomery, Laird therof.

LHUN-FARD (i), heigh medow.

LITILE STAINE.

LUDGAR-LITLE.

LUDGAR MEIKELE.

LOCHRIDGE OVER, belongs to ye laird of Robertland.

LOCHRIDGE NETHER, belongs to Arnot Laird therof.

LANGDREGGORNE is a large village with a parochiall church.

LAMBROCHTOUNE, ye ancientest inheritance of ye predicessors of ye Cuninghames, Earls of Glencairne.

LOUDOUN belongs to ye Lord Lowdoune, heritable shriffs of Aire.

LOUDOUNE LITLE.

LOUDOUN-HILL, a small hamlett.

LOUDOUN LOCH.

M.

MILRIDGE.

MARTINGLEN.

MICHAELSTOUNE.

MIDDELTOUNE.

MOORE-HEAD.

MOURE-TOUNE.

MAINS OF SUY ININ belongs to ye Lord SEMPLE.

MILLBURNE FLUVIUS running by Kirkbryde.

MARKESVOORTH.

MIDDELLTOUNE is the Lord Boydes, with manay small villages therto adjoining.

MAULD-HEAD is ye Laird of Kerslande.

MONFODD, a pretty duelling beloninging to Heugh Monfodd of that ilk, Laird therof.

MINNOCK OVER belongs to David Fairelies.

MEDOW HEADS is the inheritance of ye Lord Ross.

MIDDE MINNOCK belongs to ye Laird of Ramfurly.

MINNOCK NETHER, belongs to James Craufurd.

MONCASTLE, a pretty fare bulding, weill planted, ye inheritance of Hamiltone Earle of Abercorne.

MARCHLAND doeth belonge to ye Laird of Achinharvey.

MONCARDEN, a proper duelling weill planted, yeilding in all ye ground yerof Colles, and belongs to Andrew Niven Laird therof.

MONGRYNEN CASTLE is ane old strong Dunijon weill and plesantly planted, ye inheritance of Cuninghame Laird therof, sone to the abott of Kilwinin quho wes brother to James Earle of Glencairne.

MEIKELE STAINE, a strong old touer belonging to ye Earle of Eglintone.

MACHARNOCH-MOORE.

MUNCKLAND.

N.

NORTH SKELMORLY, a fair weille bult housse and plesantly seatted, decorred with orchards and woodes, the inheritance of Robert Montgomery Laird therof quho holds it of ye Earls of Glencairne.

NODLE FLUVIUS.

NETHER RAMSHEAD.

NEUBOTLE.

NEWHALL.

NETEL-HIRST.

NOBLESTOUNE.

NETE YLE, is a litle small Iyland neir ye Castell of Ardrossen quher ye Earle of Eglintoune hath a salmond fisching by Netts from wich ye Iyland is so named.

NETHER ROBERTLAND is ye Laird of Corsehills.

NETHER PREISTOUNE belongs to Barcklay, Laird therof, and is ane pretty duelling.

NEUMILLES, a fair and weill bult duelling, decored with plesant gardens and orchardes. It belongs to ye Lord Loudoun. Having a parish churche so named with a stone bridge over ye River Irwin.

O.

OLD-MOORE belongs to ye Laird of Achinamys.

OUERTOUNE is the Laird of Vatterstouns.

OUERLYNN is Johne Lynns de eodem.

OUER ROBERTON CASTLE belongs to Cuninghame laird therof.

ORMES-HEUGH, anciently the cheiffe duelling of that famous Godofred Roes but now ye possessione of Montgomery Laird of Skelmurley.

OUER PEIRSTOUNE, a proper bulding weill plented, the inheritance of Blaire Laird of Adamtoune.

OUERSHEUCH.

OLDVALLS.

P.

PADDOCKRIDDING is ye Lord Sempels.

POWDUFFE-BURNE.

POWKENNOCH-BURNE.

PITKON is the inheritance of Thomas Boyde.

POOL-TARS (or the bulls burne).

PORTINCROSSE CASTLE, the inheritance of Archibald Boyde, Laird of Ard Neill.

PLUMBO, a stream falling in ye River Garnock.

PEDDER-LAND.

POTTER-TOUNE is ye Laird of Mongrynans.

POW RUSKAN.

POW-KAILLIE.

POW-BYTH.

Q.

QUARTER.

R.

RY FLUVIUS.

RINGANROSE-HILL.

ROTTIN-BURNE.

RYID-HILL.

RIDDINGS.

ROWALLAN, a stronge ancient duelling belonging to ye the surname of Moore, weill neir 400 yeirs. With them K. Rob. 2d Allayed.

REUINCRAIGE, a reuined once a stronge Castle and the cheiffe seatte of GODRED DE ROES Lord Liddisdaill.

RY-BOURNE is ye possesione of Ry-bourne de eodem now Laird therof.

RAALSTONE-HILL.

RAALSTONE-MILL.

RALLSTONE are all ye Lord Boyds.

S.

SOUTH SKELMORLY, the inheritance of Archibald Cuninghame.

SOUTH FARDING.

SKELMORLY MOORE.

SKELMORLY BURNEY, a litell rill.

SKLINTISSYDE-HILL.

STEINSTONE belongs to Johne Montgomerie.

SALTE-COTTES, quher salt is made. It belongs to ye Earle of Glencairne.

STEUARTETOUNE CASTLE, a stronge old Dounijon. The ancient inheritance of ye predicessors of our Scotts kings. Now possessed by Neeill Montgomerey of Langeshaw.

SAND-BED and

STRUHERS ar ye inheritance of ye Lord Boyde.

SYLVERWOOD is the inheritance of Johne Powa, laird therof.

T.

TURGILL BURNE.

TOUER REGILL is the inheritance of David Boyde, brother to ye Lord Boyde.

TURNOUR-LAND.

THRID-PAIRT is the inheritance of Cuninghame, Laird of Glengarnock.

TOM-SHEEILES.

TANNOCK.

TRIORNE is the inheritance of Robert Ker, Laird therof, and he is thought to [be] ye most ancient gentleman of that surname in all Scotland.

TERBART, a stronge old duelling weill planted, belonging to ye Lord Roes.

TRUDZACHS.

TEMPLE-HOUSSE.

TOUER LANDES is the inheritance of William Cuninghame, Laird therof.

TEMPLETOUNE.

V. W.

WOOD-SIDE is a proper duelling and belongs to ye Laird of Raalstoune.

WHIT KRAIGE is the Lord Boyds.

VATTER-LANDS is the possesione of Jo. Montgomery of Achinbotthy.

WARRIX anciently belonged to PHILIPE DE HORSEY, sone in law to Sir Richard Morwill.

VARRIX HILL is Cuninghame heades.

VOOD HILL belongs to ye Earl of Eglintoune.

VINTERBERREY-HILL, a hamlet so named.

VINDEY-EDGE is the Earl of Eglintouns.

WARD-LAW belongs to Robert Boyd.

CARRICK IN 1696,

FROM

"THE GEOGRAPHICAL COLLECTIONS RELATING TO SCOTLAND, COLLECTED BY WALTER MacFARLANE OF THAT ILK, ESQUIRE."

BY

MR WILLIAM ABERCRUMMIE,

MINISTER OF MINNIBOLE.

CARRICK IN 1696.

[NOTE.—The following quaint, but on the whole very interesting description of Carrick in the year 1696 is taken from "The Geographical Collections relating to Scotland collected by Walter MacFarlan of that Ilk, Esquire." The author, Mr William Abercrummie (or Abercrombie) was Episcopal minister of Maybole, and he is described in "Swinton's MS." in the Advocates' Library as "deserted—also outed by Mr Jo. Hutcheson's return," the former Presbyterian minister of the parish. The Notes accompanying, and which, for convenience sake, I have introduced at the close of the passages of which they are explanatory, are taken from the reprint of the "Description" by Robert Pitcairn, W.S., 1836. Mr Abercrummie, it will be observed, speaks somewhat slightingly of the natives of Carrick. "Their ease and plenty," he says "disposes them to be unruly and turbulent, so that the servants are insolent, and all of them are but unease subjects, so that in the late times Carrick has been a sanctuary, or rather a nurserie of Rogues, bearing armes against authority, upon pretext of religion." It may not uncharitably be assumed that the reverend gentleman's ejection from the parish on the return of the Presbyterian minister, and the fact that the people as a whole preferred Presbytery to Episcopacy, may have biased him in the estimate he formed of the inhabitants.]

CARRICK is a part of the SHYRE OF AYRE, lying to the South and South-west of KYLE, from which it is separated by *the River of* Dun, which hath its rise out of a Loch of that same name, which is in breadth . . . . . , and has a Castle in the midst of it, above *Dalmellingtowne*, a Kirk-towne in Kyle, ... miles; and after many windings, whereby it makes Kyle and Carrick mixe and indent the one with the other, it empties itself into the Sea, within two miles of AIRE; yet so that, at low water, there is scarce the vestige of a River; because, in the broad and spacious sands, the waters of it are lost, having no channell, so that people usually passe alongst on foot and shod, without any prejudice by water.

It lyes in the forme of a triangle, whereof the North poynt towards Kyle, at the Bridge of Dun, is very narrow, being shutt up by the Sea on the West part; and the land of Kyle in the parish of *Alloway* and *Dalrimple* shutts up the *Water of Dun*, on the East syde. The Coast runs South-west from the *Castle of Greenand*, standing on a rock at the influxe of *Dun* into the Sea, untill the *Poynt of Turnberry* whereon are to be seen the ruins of an old Castell, of the same name. From this to *Girvan* the Coast turns perfytely South; from which, turning South-west till *the Bennan-hill*, from thence it turns again Southward, till *Ballantrae;* on the South syde whereof THE RIVER OF STINCHER runs into the Sea; at the influxe whereof, there riseth up a ridge of hills, which run straight Westward to the mouth of *Loch Ryan;* and there the Coast of Carrick turns to the South-east, up the syde of the Loch. This Loch will be . . . . . myles in breadth, above the mouth of which on the other side of *Glenap* towards the descent of the hill to THE RINS OF GALLOWAY, are the *(Three) Standing Stones* which are accounted the March betwixt CARRICK and GALLOWAY, on that part; from which Stones, Eastward, this countrey is all alongst marched with the countrey of the RINS and Shyre of Galloway, alongst the heads of the parishes of *Ballantrae, Colmonell, Barre*, and the parish of *Straton*, which bords with (the) parish of *Carnfairne* in the Stewartrie: But all alongst the March, it is a wild moorish countrey; and ther meets with LOCH DUN, out of which issues the *River* of that name, above mentioned.

It is a countrey which is abundantly furnished with all the accommodations of human lyfe; and if it had iron could subsiste of itselfe, without dependence upon any other; for though no salt be made in it, yet wants not the materials for making thereof, it being washed by the sea upon one syde, and well enough provided of coal, at no great distance from the Coast; and it is not (so) much the sloath of the inhabitants that they have none, as the cheapness of this commodity, both domestick and forreigne.

It is better fitted for pasturage than corns,

yet it produces such plenty of all sorts of graine, that it not only serves its own inhabitants, but has to spare to neighbouring places; so that from hence are yearly transported considerable quantities of meal, both to GALLOWAY, and the *Fishing* in CLYDE.

It affords also store of Cattle, so that great droves of cows and bullocks are carried yearly hence, both into England and other places of our kingdome, which are returned again in silver and gold, which uses to be very common amongst all the people, from Halloway till Candlemas that the rent be cleared. And this is the special quality of the beefe that pasture in the moore-countrey, that the flesh is very sweet and pleasant, and the fat of them keeps soft like that of pork.

[NOTE.—In a "Memoriall of the most rare and wonderfull things in Scotland, London, 1603," this fact is corroborated in the following singular terms: "In Carrik are kyne and oxen delicious to eate; but ther fatness is of a wonderfull temperature; and although the fatnes of all other comestable (*eatable*) beasts, for the ordinarie use of man, doe congeale with the cold aire; by the contrarie, the fatnesse of these beasts is perpetually liquid, like oil." *Bellenden* also, in his Translation of *Hector Boece*, has a similar notice—"In this region are mony fair ky and oxin, of quhilk the flesche is richt delicious and tender. The talloun (*tallow*) of thair wambis is sa sappy, that it fresis nevir; bot flowis ay be nature, of the self, in name of oulie."—*Bellend, Hist.* I., xxix.]

It is very balanced with moore and dale: for the one part that abounds with corne, supplyes the other place, which is for pasturage, with bread, as they furnish them again with beefe, mutton, wool, butter, cheese; and the whole country are so fond of preserving store, that it is very rare to find any veal eaten here, but which is brought from KYLE or CUNINGHAME. They have plenty of poultrey, hens, capons, ducks, geese, and turkeys at easie rates; and for wild foul, patridge, moor-foul, blackcocks, pliver, no place is better provided: besyde, store of solan geese in so great plenty, that the very poorest of the people eat of them in their season, at easie rates: besides other sea-fowles, which are brought from AILSA, of the bigness of ducks, and of the taste of solan-geese, and are called *Albanacks*, or *Ailsa cocks*, and *Tarnathans*, of which there is so great a multitude about that Isle, that when, by the shot of a piece, they are put upon the wing, they will darken the heavens above the spectators. This AILSA is a rock in the sea, in which those Solan geese nestle and breed; in which also there be conies and wild doves. It is reckoned as part of the parish of Daylie, belongs to the *Earl of Cassillis*, and has the valuation of ten lib. land of old extent.

By the neighbourhood of the sea, which washes the West thereof, for the space of thirtie miles, it is well provided of fishes, such as killing, ling, cod, haddowes, whyttings, herrings, makrills. And by three maine RIVERS that water this countrey, viz., DUN, GIRVAN, and STINCHER, they be furnished with salmond, which be taken at the mouth of these in such abundance, as to serve both for the use of the countrey and be sent abroad. The *Lochs*, and other *Rivulets* have in them pykes, trouts, eels.

No countrey is better provided of WOOD, for alongst the banks of *Dun*, *Girvan*, and *Stincher*, there be great woods, but especially on Girvan; whereby they serve the neighbourhood, both in Kyle and Cuninghame, for timber to build countrey houses, and for all the uses of husbandrie, as cart, harrow, plough, and barrow, at verie easie rates; and the sorts are birch, elder, sauch, poplar, ash, oak, and hazel; and it is ordinary, throughout all the countrey, and every gentleman has by his house, both wood and water, orchardes, and parkes.

The country is very well watered, for it has *Dun*, that marcheth it all alongst on the syde next KYLE; *Girvan* runs through the middle of it and almost divides it; and *Stincher*, that waters the upper part, besydes severell other lesser *Rivulets*, such as *Muck*, *Dusk* and *Tig*, that run into it; the last whereof is about a mile above the influxe of Stincher into the Sea.

The Lochs be *Loch Dun*, out of which runs the water of *Dun*; the streame whereof is very rapid and impetuous, and is passable by a bridge of one arch; but exceeding wide, about half a mile above its influxe into the sea.

[NOTE.—The bridge so highly celebrated by *Robert Burns'* poem of TAM O' SHANTER. It may be remarked, that the hero of this inimitable poem was *Thomas Reid*, tenant of the farm of Shanter, which lies about a mile from Turnberry Castle, on the height above the shore, towards Kirkoswald.]

Loch Spalander, in which are excellent trouts, known by their blackish kolour; out of which runs a small rivulet called *Dyrock*, which in its course passes by the church of the parish of *Kirkmichael*, and passes into *Girvan* a mile below the said Kirk. There be also other Lochs, such as the *Dove Loch*, *Neilston Loch*,

and *Heart Loch*, all in the parish of *Mayboll*: the last whereof is so called from its shape and figure, which is exactly that of a heart, so formed by the rushes growing round about it, and giving the waters the shape of a heart. It lyes within a quarter of a mile of the town of Mayboll, to the south-eastward. There be also *Mocàrum Hill Loch*, and *Craigdour Loch*, in the parish of Kirkoswald.

It abounds with many good SPRINGS *of water*, whereof I shall at present mention four only for their singularity. Two for their copiousness of water, both of them at *Mayboll*; on (*one*) at the North-east end of the towne called *My Lord's Well and Hough*; usually it springs so abundantly that no inconsiderable stream runs from it; yet in times of great droughts it fails. But the other, on the South-west end of the town, called the *Spout of Well-trees*, is so very plenteous, that, falling in several mouths through rock and stone, it would, for its plenty and sweetness, be accounted a rich treasure to the Capital City of the nation. Another spring there is called *St Helen's Well*, or by a cart (*i.e.*, curt) pronunciation *St Emus* for *St Anthonie's Well*; it is about a mile and a half from Mayboll, on the road to *Aire*, a little North of Ballachmont. It is famous for the cure of unthriving children, to which, at the change of the quarter, especially at *May-day*, there is a great resort of people from all quarters and at a good distance.

(NOTE.—This can unquestionably be traced as a remnant of the ancient superstition that *miracles* were wrought at Holy Wells; which all the anathemas of the Reformed Kirk could not for a time obliterate from the minds of the common people. The records of the Kirk-session bear witness to the prevalence of applying to Saints' Wells for the cure of bodily infirmities, on stated occasions; particularly, when the Saint or Angel was understood to 'move the waters.' Pins, pieces of the dress of the patient, or such small trifles, were left at the well—the remains, no doubt, of the *offerings* formerly made to the Clergy—and in token that the disease was transferred from the sufferer to the rags, thus offered to the *Genius loci*. Numerous traces of this prevailing superstition could easily be cited.)

Though this countrey be (washed) with the sea, for the space of 24 myles and upwards, yet there be no convenient HARBOURS or BAYS for receiving of Ships; so that none resort (to) it but small boats, or barks, from IRELAND OR THE HIGHLANDS, and their best receptacle is the broad *Lands of Turnberry* and the mouths of *Dun*, *Girvan*, and *Stincher*; and of all these three *Girvan* is the best; and for the fishing boats, they have no other shelter but to draw them up the length of the water-marke, when they come ashoar, and then to . . . . . them when the tyde puts them afloat againe. The shoar is very well parted, all alongst, 'twixt rock and sand; some places a tract of open plain sands; some places high and steep rock, which is ever washen with the sea.

There be in this country some vestiges of ANCIENT OCCURRENCES, the historie whereof not having been preserved by the inhabitants, oblidges us to observe them only without giving any *rationale* of them. There is a little *acervus* of earth, of a circular forme, with a big stone erect on the middle thereof, within half a myle of *Maybole*, on the road to *Aire*, within the farm called *St Murray*. There is also upon the descent of *Broun Carrick-hill*, near to the *Mains of Blairstoune*, a big Whinstone, upon which there is the dull figure of a Crosse; which is alleged to have been done by some venerable Churchman, who did mediat a peace 'twixt the King of the Picts and Scots; and to give the more authority to his proposals, did in their sight, by laying a Crosse upon the stone, imprint that figure thereon.

(NOTE.—Attributed by the vulgar (as is usual in the district in all such cases) to Sir William Wallace: who having slept there, and laying his sword upon the stone, the impression of it was left in the morning! Another veracious tradition asserts it to have been a *dint* of the sword of 'Wallace wight,' which accidentally struck the stone, when he was engaged with a host of English foes. The Popish and the popular legends are equally credible.)

Of late there was a discoverie made near to the *House of Bargany*, and just opposite to the gate of the new avenue to this house, a Sepulchre of square stone, covered over with flag stones, in which were found the bones of a man; and at the place where his head was laid an earthen pott, in which the diggers of it found some small pieces of silver, whereof the impression bore no letters that could be known.

There is yet to be seen from the coast of Carrick, beyond *Drumbeg*, as you go to *Girvan*, the vestige of *a Camp and Fortification*. But the most memorable actions that are now remembered in this countrey, are DOMESTICK FEUDS betwixt two great families of the name of KENNEDY, contending for precedence, viz., THE FAMILY OF CASSILLIS and THE KENNEDYS

of BARGENY; these contending for the right of primogeniture against the encroachments of the other, who, by the interest of his greater allegance with THE ROYAL FAMILIE, assumed the pre-heminence; which occasioned such animosities betwixt them, that the matter was disputed by these two Families, with their respective friends and followers, in a pitched field, in a certain place within the parish of Mayboll, called *the 'Field of Pennyglen'* to this day. In which contest many of both sides were killed; but *the Family of Cassillis* had the advantage. Since which tyme the stock of the Family of *Bargeny* is extinguished; some branches of it being yet extant. The mansion-house and principall parts of the estate being now possessed by *Hamiltons*.

THE INHABITANTS of this countrey are of ane *Irish* Originall, as appears, both by their names, being generally all Mac's; I mean the vulgar: And all their habitations of Irish designatione; their hills are *Knocks*, their Castles *Ards*. But (although) the great and almost only name amongst the gentrie have been *Kennedies*, yet their be beside them *Boyds*, *Cathcarts*, *Fergussons*, and *Moores*, that have been old possessors. But the later names that enjoy some the ancient honourable Seats of the *Kennedies*, are *Hamiltons* that possesse BARGENY; *Whitfoords* that possesse BLAIRQUHAN; and *Crawfuird* that have ARDMILLAN. Yet the KENNEDIES continue still to be both the most numerous and most powerfull Clan. Beside *the Earl of Cassilis*, their Cheife, there be *Sir Gilbert Kennedy of Girvanmains*, *Sir Archibald Kennedy of Colarne* (Colzean), *Sir Thomas Kennedy of Kirkhill*, *Kennedy of Beltersan*, *Kennedy of Kilherque* (i.e., Kilkenzie), *Kennedy of Kirkmichael*, *Kennedy of Knockdone*, *Kennedy of Glenour*, *Kennedy of Bennan*, *Kennedy of Garlock*, and *Kennedy of Drummellan*. But this name is under great decay, in comparison of what it was, ane age agoe; at which tyme, they flourished so in power and number, as to give occasion to this Ryme,

> "Twixt Wigtoune and the town of Aire,
> And laigh down by the Cruves of Cree,
> You shall not get a lodging there,
> Except you court a Kennedy!"

[NOTE.—Sir Walter Scott has preserved this rhyme, from tradition, thus—

> "Twixt Wigton and the town of Air,
> Portpatrick and the Cruives of Cree,
> No man need think for to bide there,
> Unless he court Saint Kennedie."]

The persons of men are generally tall and statelie, well limbed and comely; and women are nowhere better complexioned. They are a healthful sort of people, and live to a good age, both Gentrie and Commons; so that they usually have, the Grandfather and Oyes. Some see the fourth generation. And they all generally love ease; to which their soyle being for pasturage, gives them opportunities; and they are, in poynt of industrie, most addicted to merchandising, by droves of cattle, wool, flocks of sheep, and commerce, with Ireland; but seeme not fond of trading afar off, as having all necessary accommodations at home; but if they be transplanted from their native soil, they prosper and thrive very well, both at home and abroad. Their ease and plenty disposes them to be unruly and turbulent, so that the servants are insolent, and all of them are but uneasie subjects; so that in the late tymes, Carrick has been a sanctuary, or rather a nurserie, of Rogues, bearing armes against authority, upon pretext of Religion.

In this countrey RELIGION has had the influence upon the people to dispose them to the founding and endowing many places for devotion, for though there be but one MONASTERIE in all this countrey, viz., *Crossraguel*, within two myles of *Mayboll*, Westward; which, besyd other revenue, enjoyed the Tythes of these five parishes, viz., *Kirkoswald*, *Daillie*, *Girvan*, *Ballantrae*, and *Straton*; which enjoyed the jurisdiction of Regality within itselfe, to which all its vassals and tenants are answerable; yet were there also severall other pious foundations and donations. There is the *Munkland*, ane 100 merkland of old extent, which is an appendage of *the Abbacy of Melrose*, and had a separate Jurisdiction of its owne, for ministring justice to all the vassals and Tenants thereof. *The Laird of Ardmillan*, one of the vassals, was heretable Baillie; and upon the parcelling of his fortune, was acquired by *Kennedy of Grange*.

There was also a COLLEGIAT CHURCH at *Mayboll*, the fabrick whereof is yet extant and entyre; being now used as *the Burial place of the Earle of Cassilis*, and other Gentlemen who contributed to the putting of a roofe upon it, when it was decayed. On the North syde of which Kirk, is the Buriall place of *the Laird of Colaine*, within ane Enclosure of new square-stone, lately built. The Colledge consisted of a Rector and three Prebends, whose stalls are all of them yet extant, save the Rector's, which was where these low buildings and the garden are, on the East syde of that which is now the *Parson's house*. The

othere three are *the Black house*, *Ja. Gray's house* with the Orchard, and *the Weltrees*. The patrimony of this Church were *the Provest* (lands) and *Priest's-lands*, in the Parish of *Kirkmichael*, which fell into the Earl of Cassilis hands, upon the dissolution of the Colledge, at the Reformation; out of which, he as yet payes, yearly, to *the Minister of Mayboll*, the some of 70 merks Scots. As for *the Church*, its present patrimony is out of the Tyth of the parish, which before the Reformation was all possessed and enjoyed by *the Nuns of Northberwick;* and on the dissolution of the said Nunnerie became a prize to *the Laird of Bargeny*. *The Parish Church* stands at a little distance from the foresaid Colledge Eastward. It does not appear when it was built; but the large Isle, that lyes from the body of the Church Southward, and makes the figure of the Church a T, was built by Mr Ja. Bonar, Minister thereat, in the reign of King Charles the first. Within the said parish of *Mayboll*, there have been other Chappells of old, as *Kirkbryde* on the Coast syde, whose walls and yards be yet extant; and within the lands of *Auchindrain* and elsewhere, there has been other Chappells whereof the *Rudera* are yet to be seen.

This countrey of old gave the title of EARLE to ROBERT BRUCE, the great assertor of the Scottish liberty; in the right of whom it continues still to be one of the titles of the Prince; and the freeholders of this Jurisdiction are the Prince's vassals. This countrey is the ancient seat of the KENNEDIES, whose principall dwelling was the *Castle of Dinnure*, standing on the Sea-syde, in a rocky shoar, in the parish of *Mayboll*, and gives designation to a Baronie lying round about it; but this being wholly ruined, their chief Mansion is *the House of Cassilis*, standing on a high ground, on the south side of the river of *Dun*, having the Wood of Dalrymple opposite to it, on the other syde, in KYLE, which gives it a very agreeable prospect of wood and water. The House, in the body of it, is very high, having a fine stone stare, turning about a hollow casement, in which are many opens from the bottome to the top, that by putting a lamp into it, gives light to the whole turn of stairs. In the river they have cruves for taking of Salmond, and ponds to furnish them other fishes; and there be large plots of ground thrown into gardens, fenced about with stone walls, exceedingly high; which yield good store of apricocks, peaches, cherries, and all other fruits and herbage that this kingdome produces; near to which stands *the hill of Durrie*, out of which has been digg'd a rich ore, and is accounted a silver myne.

All the HOUSES OF THE GENTRY of this countrey are seated both pleasently and commodiously; being either built upon the principal Rivers, and the lesser waters that feed them, or upon the Sea-Coast. Those upon the SEA-COAST are, *the Castle of Grenand* and *the Cove*. The *Greenand* is a high house upon the top of a rock, hanging over upon the sea, with some lower new work lately added to it, but never finished. It is too open to the cold and moisture arysing from the Sea, to be a desyreable habitation; and has been designed to be the owner's security against a surprise, rather than a constant residence. It is within the parish of *Mayboll*. Not far from it lyes *the House of Newark*, a good old Castle, South-east from the other; much improven of late by the enclosing grounds for a park, and a well planted orchard. *The Cove* is *the Lairds of Colain's* Mansion-house, standing upon a rock above the Sea, flanked on the South by very pretty gardens and orchards, adorned with excellent tarases, and the walls loaden with peaches, apricotes, cherries and other fruit; and these gardens are so well sheltered from the North and East winds, and ly so open to the South, that the fruits and herbage are more early than any other place in Carrick. Southward from this lyes *the House of Thomas-Towne*, once the residence of *the Cory's*, but now of *M'Levain (Mackilveane)* of *Grimmet*; a very pretty house, with gardens, orchards, and parks round it. Both these ly in the parish of *Kirkoswald*. The next, upon the coast, are to be seen the old Ruines of the ancient *Castle of Turnberry*, upon the North west poynt of the rockie angle that turns about towards *Girvan*; and is perhaps that place called by Ptolmee *Perigonium*; of a Greek origination, importing round the corner, and suiting the English designation of *Turnberry*; and that it cannot be *Bargeny*, as some imagine, the very situation of that Castle and recentness of it will abundantly show. And to confirm this our conjecture, that *Perigonium* is *Turnberry*, from turning of the corner, a tradition amongst the people there, will not a little conduce, viz., that near to this very Castle, there was, of old, a Towne of the same name, of which there is no vestige at present to be seen, but that they perceive some remainders of a Causeway; and the reason for this may be, the neighbourhood of the Port of greatest resort in all that coast, at which the first possessors have landed from Ireland, and so might have fixed their habitation near to it, though now the place be but a tract of barren sands.

Next to this is *the Castle of Ardmillan*, so much improven, of late, that it looks like a Palace, built round, Court wayes: surrounded with a deep broad ditch, and strengthened with a moveable bridge at the entry; able to secure the owner from the suddain commotions and assaults of the wild people of this corner, which on these occasions are sett upon robbery and depredation; and to enable him the better to endure a siege, he is well provided of well in his court; and a hand-mill in the house, for grinding meall or malt, with which two lusty fellows sett a-work will grind a firlott in the space of ane hour. It is well surrounded with good corn-fields and meadow, with large parks for pasturage, and excellent good gardens and orchards that yield plenty of apples and pears, and one more particularly, that for its precocity is called *the early pear of Ardmillan*, of a very pleasant taste. In the year . . . . happened a strange conjunction 'twixt a Jackdaw and a Magpie that paired together, built their nest, and brought fourth their young, resembling more the jackdaw than the magpie.

[NOTE.—The Laird of Ardmillan of that period was a zealous persecutor of the Presbyterians; which sufficiently accounts for the glowing accounts given by Mr William Abercrumbie, the Episcopal curate, of the beauties of Ardmillan Castle and demesnes.]

Last, there is *the old Castle of Ardstincher*, which is mostly now ruined, but has been of old a vast hudge fabrick, and stands upon ane ascending ground, above the town of *Ballantrae*, Eastward.

The HOUSES on *the water of* DUN, are Cassilis, of which already; *Achindrain*, an high tower, with laigh buildings, surrounded with good orchards and gardens, parks, and good corn fields. The owner hereof is Moore (Mure). Next to this is *Blairtown*, a stone Tower-house, with lower buildings about it, surrounded with gardens, orchards, and parks. It lyes low, upon the water syde. And then *Bridyend* (NOTE.—This place is now called Doonside), a pretty dwelling, surrounded also with gardens, orchards, and parks. All these are in the parish of *Mayboll*.

The *Water of* Girvan, above the *kirk of Straiton*, is wyld and hilly; but at the *Clachan* (Kirktown) it opens into a faire pleasant prospect of plaine grounds. Next to it is the great *Castle of Blairquhan*, the fine building and hudge bulk whereof, is a plaine demonstration of the sometime greatness of that Family; which, besyde their possessions in CARRICK, had large territories also in GALLOWAY. It is well provyded with wood, covered with planting of barren timber, and surrounded with large orchards. Next to it is *Cloncaird*, near two myles distance, which is surrounded with gardens, orchards, and great store of wood. The third, but at a greater distance from the water of *Girvan*, is *the House of Kirkmichael*, a pretty commodious house, within a short space of the Church of the same name; betwixt which runs the *Water of Dyroyk*, above mentioned, which soon swells with rain falling on the higher grounds, and becomes unpassable on a sudden. *The House of Kirkmichael* is as desyreable a dwelling as in all the countrey, having good gardens and orchards; and was the first in CARRICK planted with apricocks and peaches. This orchard and House is flanked on the South with a *Loch*; part whereof has been drained of late, and rewards the owner's industry with good hay. The next is *Dalduffe*, on the South syde of *Girvan*, a small stone house, with ane orchard and good corne fields about it.

Below that, upon the South syde and at some distance from the River, stands *the House of Barclanahan* (now called Kilkerran) with its gardens and orchards, all which are surrounded by wood. All the water from this downwards till near *Daillie*,, being so covered with wood, that it looks lyke a forest. And in a low ground below the last, and nearer the water, stands *Drummellan*; and upon the North syde of the River, below that, upon an higher ground, stands the *House of Drumburle*, the Mansion House of the *Lairds of Drummellan*. On the same syde, farder down the water, stands *the House of Drummochrin*, which is but a small interest, but a most lovely thing, being every way commodious and convenient for living easily that it is, as it were, ane abidgement of this country, having all the accommodations that are dispersed through it all comprized within its short and small bounds. It was a house, not for ostentation but for conveniency, fit to lodge the owner and his neighbours. It hath gardens, orchards, wood, water; all the fishes that swim in rivers; all sorts of cattle, sheep, cows, swine, and goat; all sorts of fowl, wyld and tame; all manner of stone for building, freestone and lymestone; and coall, moore, mosse, meadowe, and marle; a Wak-mylne and Corn-miln; and all manner of artisans and tradesmen within his bounds; and yet the revenue not above 100 lib. *per annum*.

Not far from this, downe the water, stands the stately *Castle of Dolquharran*, the building whereof is much improven by the additions lately made thereto, which make it by very far

the best House of all that countrey; surrounded with vast enclosures of wood, that the countrey is not able to consume it, by their building and other instruments. And amongst them there be oak trees of a considerable size, both for hight and breadth, that will serve either for jest or roofe of good houses. Opposite to this stands the House of *Mairestown*, on the South syde of the River. And Westward from it, *the new Kirk of Daillie*, which is of late erected for the accommodation of the parishioners; being now centricall, whereas before, the situation whereof was at the extreme West poynt of the parish. Below this, on the South syde of *Girvan*, stands *the House of Burnstowne*, in ane open field. Next to which, in the midst of a forrest, rather than wood, stands in a low ground, near the brink of the River, *the old Castle of Bargeny*, on the South syde of *Girvan*; which is ane argument of the sometime greatnesse of that Family; being a hudge, great, lofty Tower, in the centre of a quadrangular Court, that had on each of three coruers, fyne well-built Towers of freestone, four story high. But the new House, lately built after the modern fashion, stands upon a higher ground, Southward of *the old Castle*, which furnished materials both for founding and finishing of the new House. It is a mighty commodious House; and if any make a greater shew and appearance, yet it has the advantage of them for contrivance and accommodation. It is flanked to the South with gardens, very pretty; and has orchards lying Westwards of it.

About a mile downe the water, stands *the Castle of Killochan*, the *Mansion-house of Cathcart of Carletowne*, surrounded with orchard, planting, and wood. It stands upon a higher ground that descends Southward to the water, which is at a small distance from it; and has, toward the South, a prospect of a pleasant plaine, where stood *the Old Kirk of Daillie* and *Kirktowne*, by which runs the little rivulet of *Polchapil*, passing Northward into *Girvan*; on the East syde of which, up toward the hill, stands *the House of Pinkill*, belonging to the *Boyds*. West of which lies a high hill, called *the Saugh-hill*, once memorable for the resort of people to Conventicles, where they built a Meeting-house of turfe and wood.

On the North syde of the River downward, and up toward the hill, about a myle from the River, stands *the House of Trochreg*, which belongs to the *Boyds*; which family has produced two great men, famous in their generation, and great lights in the Church of God. One was *James Boyd, Archbishop of Glasgow*, who maintained the honour of his character by a vertuous and exemplary lyfe, and strenuously defended the lawfulness of his office against the insults of our first zealots, *Mr Andrew Melvin* and his accomplices. The other was his son and heir, who, following the study of Divinity, merited the Chaire in *the Colledge of Saumure in France*; and thence, was brought to be *Principall of the Colledge of Glasgow*; whose learned Commentaries on the Ephesians are well known, and justly had in great estimation.

(NOTE.—The James Boyd mentioned was the second son of Adam Boyd of Pinkill, brother to Robert, Master of Boyd, who was father of Robert, sixth Lord Boyd. The other was Mr Robert Boyd of Trochrig; who had also a chair in the University of Edinburgh. Of the family of Boyd, also, was the celebrated Mark Alexander Boyd, who was born at Pinkill, Jan. 13, 1562. *Sibbald*, Prodr. Nat. Hist.—He was the *nephew*, not the son, of the Archbishop, being the youngest son of Robert Boyd of Pinkill. Having accompanied John Earl of Cassillis in his travels, he died of a slow fever Apr. 10, 1601, on his return home. See his life by *Lord Hailes*, appended to *Annals* of Scotland 8vo. edit. Edin. 1819, III. 420.)

From this downward, stands *the Enoch*; and a little below that, there is cast over the River a stone bridge. And near to the influxe of the Sea, upon a levell ground, high above the water, stands *the Kirk of Girvan*, and *the Parson's house*, on the North syde of the Churchyard. Opposite to which, on the other syde of the River, lyes a pleasant Links with a Conyware (*i.e.*, rabbit-warren); and at the foot of it is a Salmond fishing, at the mouth of the River, and a station for boats that come from Ireland or the Highlands. Southward from *the Kirk of Girvan* stands *the Tower of Ballochtowel*, a monument of the builder's folly, being raised five story high, without staircase, and no more but one roome in each story. It has neither garden nor orchard, nor planting, but stands in the midst of rich corn-fields. The builder of this house, *Boyd of Penkill*, procured a patent for building a New Burgh at *Girvan*, whose situation and streets he designed and marked out in these barren sands, on the South syde of the water mouth of *Girvan*, and erected a pole for the crosse thereof; but his design never took effect, not an house being built there, save (one?) and that scarcely within the bounds assigned his Towne; yet it hath four faires, one for every quarter of the year, that give the name of *the Newburgh of Girvan* to

these sandy knowes. Amongst which, there is one spot that is not to be passed without observation, which is called *Knock-Oshin*; upon which the Head Courts of this Jurisdiction are kept and held, and all the vassals compear there, and seems to retaine something of the ancient custome of our Nation, that the King's Vassals were convened in the field, lyke a rendezvous of souldiers, rather than in ane house for ceremony and attendance.

The other principall *River* of this countrey is STINCHER, which ryses in . . . ., and makes a pleasant strath in all its course; in which are many pleasant seats of pettie heretors, and substantiall farmers; who, knowing the nature of the soyle to be fittest for pasturage, breed stores of cowes, sheep, and goats, and live very plentifully.

[NOTE.—1. The STINCHER rises in the parish of Barr, 12 miles above the village of Colmonell. It continues a very rapid course, for the space of 26 or 27 miles, till it falls into the Atlantic, at Ballantrae. Several rivulets fall into it, in its course, particularly the *Ashill*, the *Dusk*, and the *Feoch*.]

Below the ryse of it, . . . myles, the countrey opens about *the Ballage*, and affoords pretty plains on each syde of the River, which is somewhere again shut up by the encroachment of some litle hills, and againe is dilated into broad plaine fields, as at *Dalherne* (Dalquhirne); and so makes pleasant haughs, upon one or other syde of the river, till you come to the *Barre-hill*; upon the South-west of which stands *the Kirk of Barre*, or *Brownhill*, which is a new erection, for the conveniency of the extreme places of the old parishes of *Daillie* and *Girvan*, and the dwellers in the remote corners on the borders of GALLOWAY, upon the waters of *Cree* and *Menock*.

From the said Kirk, the trough of the water continues pretty open, and has pleasant dwellings, all alongst, upon each syde of the water, as *Anton-Albany* (Alton-Albany), *Dowlarg*, *Achinsoul*, *Bennain*, *Monnucion* (Minuncion), for the space of three myles, till you come to *Corseclay*, as that stands upon the confluence of *Muik* and *Stincher*, the hills growing close and high upon the North and West thereof, leaving the place open to the East and South; and then, running twixt two hills, is shutt up by them upon the South and North, till you come to *Daljarrach*, which stands upon the North syde of the River, at the head of a pleasant plaine, looking Westward; below which *Stincher* receives *Dusk*: And just above their meeting, stands *the old Castle of Pinwhirrie*; and up *Dusk* a litle, stands *the House of Glen-Dusk*, on the rysing ground; below which, lye large fields of excellent meadow; and a myle upward, stands *the House of Kildonan*, upon the East syde of the water. And below the influxe of *Dusk* into *Stincher*, stands *the Craig*, on the North syde of the River; and in a higher ground, and a litle downe the River, on the South syde, stands *Dalreoch*, on a rysing ground; but the hills upon the South come so close upon, and so high, that they cover it from the Sun, in the short days. And a litle downeward, and in the low ground upon the brink of the water, stands *Bardrochatt*; and just above it upon the hill, on an ascente of difficult accesse, stands the strong *Castle of Craigneil*, which belongs to *the Earl of Cassillis*, and gives designation to a Barony of land, lyand round it. Opposite to which, on the North syde, on a ground mounted above the water, stands *the Kirk* and *Clachan of Colmonell*; and hardby it, *the House of Kirkhill*, which gives the title to *Sir Thomas Kennedy*, late Provost of Edinburgh. A myle below this, stands *the House of Knockdolian*, on the East syde of *Knockdolian Hill*, the seat of the *M'Kubbens*; about which is shewn what art and industrie can doe, to render a place, to which nature has not been favourable, very pleasant, by planting of gardens, orchards, walks, and rows of trees, that surprize the beholder with things so far beyond expectation, in a countrey so wild and mountainous. This hill lyes North-west of the house, and mounts up with a small top, as if it would pierce the skies. It is the highest of all the countrey; about the top whereof, when any mist is seen, 'tis the forerunner of foul weather, and is the Countrey-man's Almanack.

When the river of *Stincher* has past this hill, it receives *the Water of Tig*, about whose influxe into it, are the remains of an old *Church*, called *Innertig* or *Kirkcudbright*, the ancient parish Church of *Ballantrae*. Below which influxe there is a pleasant haugh of low grounds, till the falling into the Sea, which of late has been quite ruined and spoyled, by the river's forcing its course out of its ancient channel, and breaking in upon the same, that it is neither fitt for grass nor corns. At the foot of this water stands *the Towne of Ballantrae*, on the North syde, on a pleasant foreland, which some years agoe has been much resorted to, by reason of an Herring-fishing, about the Christmasse tyme; but that has ceased about 30 years past. In this Towne is the *Parish Church*; and in it an Isle (Aisle), *the Buriall-place of the*

Lord Bargeny. Opposite to which, on the other syde, there is a rich Conney-ware (*i.e.*, rabbit-warren); and in the mouth of the River the best Salmond-fishing in CARRICK; all of which belong to *the Lord of Bargeny*.

As to the CIVILL JURISDICTION of this Countrey, it is a Bailliarie, and belongs hereditablie to *the Earl of Cassillis*, who exercises his power by a depute; and has the priviledge to appoynt his owne Clerk, without dependence either upon the Secretary or Register. The ordinary seat of THE COURTS OF JUSTICE, is at *the Towne of Mayboll*, on Thursday; though the meeting of their Head-Court be a little hillock or know, called *Knockoshin*, in the bounds designed in the *Newtowne of Girvan*. All the inhabitants of this countrey answer to this Court, both for civill debts and crymes; except these who live within the precinct of the two spiritualities, viz. *the Regality of Cross-Raguel* and *the Regality of the Moncland*, depending on *Melrose* above mentioned. But now those being all united in the person of *the Earle of Cassillis*, there are no separate Courts held, upon that account, nor any priviledge pleaded for them, in prejudice of THE BAILLIE COURT.

[NOTE.—The same author makes the following remarks, under the title, "JURISDICTIONS IN THE SHIRE OF AIR. The Shire of Air hes in it three Jurisdictions, KOYLE, CUNYNGHAME, and CARRICK; all subject to the Sheriff's Court, which holds at Air, the head Burgh of the Shire. The VALUATION OF THE SHIRE is Two hundred thousand lib. There are very many Noblemen and Gentlemen's famelies here of right good Estates and old standing. Severiall very remarkable Antiquities in this Shire might be noticed; but I leave it to a better hand. Only take what is before, from my own proper knowledge."—*MacFarlan's MS. Geogr. Coll.* Adv. Library.]

The Offices of Depute or Clerk, are advantagious posts to any *the Earle* bestows them upon; for by the plenty of wood and water in this countrey, which tempt men to fish and cutt stob or wattles for necessary uses, they find a way yearly to levy fines, for cutting of green wood, and killing fry or fish in prohibitate tyme, that makes a revenue in these offices, and is a constant taxe upon the people.

In all this countrey there is not any Towncorporat, save one, viz. MAYBOLL, which is nether a Burgh Royall, for it sends no Commissioner to the Parliament, nor is it merely a Burgh of Barony, such having only the power to keep mercats and a Magistracy settled amongst them, in dependence on the Baron of the place. But here it is quyte otherwayes, for they have a Charter from the King, erecting them into a Burgh, with a Toune-Councile of sixteen persons, for managing the common concerns of the Burgh, with power to them to elect from amongst themselves two Baillies, their Clerk, and Treasurer, and to keep Courts for maintaining order amongst the inhabitants, and to admit Burgesses of their Corporation. It is true, indeed, *the Earle of Cassillis* is the Superior of all the land, whereupon the Town is built; but they deny him to be their Superiour, in their Constitution as a Burgh, and disputed their right with him. During the dependence of which action, he, as Baron, sett up a Baron-Baillie, to exercise authority over the inhabitants, and to lessen the Magistrats' authority; but the people being poor and divided amongst themselves, and *the Earle* being gott into the Government, upon the Revolution, they were forced to submitt and yield to his pretensions.

This TOWNE OF MAYBOLL stands upon an ascending ground, from East to West, and lyes open to the South. It hath one principal street, declining towards the East. It is pretty well fenced from the North, by a higher ridge of hills, that lyes above it, at a small distance Northward. It hath one principall street, with houses on both sydes, built of free-stone; and it is beautified with the situation of two Castles, one at each end of this street. That on the East belongs to *the Earle of Cassillis*; beyond which Eastward, stands a great new building, which be his granaries. On the west end is a Castle, which belonged sometime to *Laird of Blairquhan*, which is now *the Tolbuith*, and is adorned with a pyramide, and a row of ballesters round it, raised upon the top of the staire-case, into which they have mounted a fyne clock. There be *four lanes* which passe from the principall street; one is called *the Back-Venall*, which is steep, declining to the South-east, and leads to a lower street, which is far longer than *the High chiefe street*, and it runs from *the Kirkland* to *the Welltrees*; in which, there have been many pretty buildings, belonging to the severall Gentry of the countrey, who were wont to resort here in Winter, and divert themselves in converse together at their owne houses. It was once the principall street of the towne; but many of these houses of the Gentry being decayed and ruined, it has lost much of its ancient beautie.

[NOTE.—Tradition has preserved the names of a few of the chief of these residences. These are, 1, The Castle, belonging to the Earls of

Cassillis. 2, The present Tolbooth was the town residence of the Lairds of Blairquhan. 3, 'The Black House,' which belonged to the Kennedies of Knockdone. 4, A large Mansion-house, with a garden, which belonged to Sir Thomas Kennedy of Culzean; and was probably the house to which he was returning when waylaid by Auchendrayne and his accomplices. It now belongs to Mr Niven of Kirkbride. 5, A House in the Kirkwynd, which belonged to Kennedy of Ballimore. 6, 'The White Horse Inn,' which formerly belonged to the Lairds of Kilhenzie. 7, 'The Garden of Eden,' and the House to which it is attached, which was the residence of the Abbots of Crossraguel. 8, The House where Abbot Quentin Kennedy and John Knox held their celebrated Conference or disputation, and is now 'the Red Lion Inn.' A great number of other ancient Houses are still extant, an examination of the title-deeds of which would show the proprietors to have been the principal gentry of the district of Carrick. Enough has been noticed to show the ancient splendour of Maybole. Twenty-eight of these winter Mansion-houses can still be reckoned.]

Just opposite to this *Venall*, there is another, that leads North-west from the chiefe street to *the Green*, which is a pleasant plott of ground enclosed with an earthen wall, wherein they were wont to play at foot-ball, but now at the gowffe, and byasse-bowls. At the East end of the principall street are two lanes; the one, called *the Fowll Venall*, carryes Northward; the other furder East, upon the chiefe street, passes to the South-east, and is called *the Kirk-Vennall*, and is the great resort of the people from the towne to the Church. The houses of this Towne, on both sydes the street, have their severall gardens belonging to them; and in the lower street there be some pretty orchards, that yield store of good fruit.

The Church is very capacious, well furnished with seats below, and lofts or gallaries above; the principall whereof is that belonging to *the Earl of Cassillis*. On the East end of the Isle there is *the Session Loft*, well adorned with two rows of seats, a higher and lower, round about it, for the accommodation of the people who are wont to be Catechised in this apartment. *The Schoole* is upon the East end of the Church, separated from it by a partition of timber, wherein doors and windows open, to give them not only a prospect into the Church, but opportunity of hearing at the greatest distance.

In this Jurisdiction there be NINE CHURCHES, all of them built of good free-stone, and covered with skleit; made so capacious as to containe the people of the respective parishes; and they are generally all of them very well endowed with competent maintenance, and other good accommodation for the Minister; having all of them tolerable good Manses and glebes.

These nyne Churches have sometyme been a distinct Presbyterie, under the name of THE PRESBYTERIE OF MAYBOLL, which thereby appears to have been the seat thereof; which seems very reasonable, as being most capable to lodge such as on that account should resort thither; and having the presence of the Magistracy to assist and second the exercise of discipline. And of late ane essay was made for erecting it anew, under the designation of THE PRESBYTERY; but there being difficulty to satisfie the parties anent the seat thereof, it was let fall. All the tyme that they acted distinctly, the Meetings were either circular, or visitations, or by turns, at *Girvan* and *Mayboll*. The nyne parishes are *Mayboll*, *Kirkmichael*, *Straton*, *Barre*, *Colmonell*, *Ballantrae*, *Girvan*, *Daillie*, and *Kirkitwald*.

THE PARISH OF MAYBOLL is very large and populous, extending from the sea and water of *Dun* to the water of *Girvan*, about *Dalduffe* and Westward. Beayde the large church now used for publick worship, there be other religious places, such as the *Collegiat Church*, and *Kirkbryde*, and other *Chappells*, whereof mention is made above. *The Lord Bargany* is patron thereof, though he have small or no interest therein. There be a great number of gentry living therein, who have pretty dwellings and commodious throughout the parish, some of which we have already named, and shall remember them againe, in the general reckoning viz. *Dalduffe*, *Kilkeizuie* (Kilhenzie), *Auchinwind*, *Bogend*, *Smithstowne*, *Monkwood*, *Donnine* (Dunneane), *Knockstone*, *Souchry*, *Craigshean*, *Beoch*, *Garrihorne*, *Dunduffe*, a house on the coast near finished, *Glenayes*, *Greenand*, *Newark*, *Bridgend*, *Blairstowne*, and *Auchindraine*. Many of these are sweet desyreable places; but for the good building, gardens, orchards, and all other accommodations, *Kilkeizuie* is the chiefe, lying about a short myle South from the towne of *Mayboll*.

THE PARISH OF KIRKMICHAEL lyes in length East and West, and is a Mensall Kirk of *the Bishop of Galloway*, who is patron thereof. It stands hard upon the rivulet of Dyorock; has no *Clachan* by it. In this parish are these houses, *Cassillis*, the mansion-house of the Earle

of Cassillis, *Kirkmichael*, *Cloncaird*, *Blairquhan*, *Kilmore*, and *Montyomerystone*.

THE PARISH OF STRATOWNE lyes East and South towards the stewartrie of GALLOWAY. *The Church* stands upon a rock declining to the Westward. The King is in possession of the *patronadye* thereof, having slipt from the *Abbot of Crosseraguel*, to whom it seems to appertaine, because the tyth (*i.e.*, teinds) hold of that Abbacy. There be no gentry live here, save *Shaw of Keirs*, and *Shaw of Grimmet*, toward the water of *Dun*.

THE PARISH OF BARRE is but a late erection, for accommodation of the extreme parts of the parishes of *Daillie* and *Girvan*. The *Patron* hereof is *the Bishop of Dumblaine*, in the right of holding *the Abbacy of Crosseraguell*. In this parish, below *the Church*, on the North syde of the water, on the higher ground, stands the chappell called *Kirk-Domine*, at which there is ane yearly fare, and the custom levyed by *Alexander of Kirkland*. None dwell here but petty Heretors, in common ordinary houses, as *Doherne*, *Barre*, *Liamuchrie* (Drummurchie), *Antanalbany*, *Archinsoul*, *Bennan*, *Monueion*, and *Bellimore*. It is of vast bounds, reaching from *Stincher* to GALLOWAY; 'twixt which, lye vast bounds of moorish and barren ground.

THE PARISH OF COLMONELL is of yet larger extent; some places in these moorish countreys lying at ten myles distant from the church. The *Patron* hereof is *the Lord Bargeny*. In this parish are several very good houses for the Heritors' residence, as *Corseclays*, *Daljarroch*, *Kildonan*, *Glenduiske*, *Craig*, *Dalreoch*, *Craigneil*, *Kirkhill*, *Knockdolians*, *Knockdow*, and *Carleton*. *Kraigneil* belongs to *the Earl of Cassillis*, and *Knockdow* to *Bargeny*; so they are no places of their residence.

THE PARISH OF BALLANTRAE is of a great extent. Though the people be not numerous, the *Clachan* is pretty populous. The *Patron* hereof is *the King*; and *the Lord Bargeny* pretends mightily to it; but upon examination it will be found to belong to *the Abbacy of Crosseraguell*. The residing Heritors are but few, and their dwellings are mean and homely; being, *Glenour*, *Bennan*, and *Carlock*, and *Glentig*. There is neither orchard nor fruit-tree in it all; and *Ardstidcher*, above mentioned, is north-east from this. A wynd-mill lately built.

THE PARISH OF GIRVAN is populous, lying contiguous to the sea, and the champaigne ground upon *the water of Girvan* on both sydes. The Patron thereof is *the Bishop of Dumblane*, in the right of *the Abbacy of Dumblane*.

[NOTE.—It is stated here that the Bishop of Dunblane had acquired the Abbacy of Crossraguel, to which monastery thispatronage had formerly belonged.]

The houses of the gentry here are *Ardmillan*, *Balachtoule*, *Treweir*, *Trochrig*.

THE PARISH OF DAILLIE lyes, in length, East and West on both sydes of *Girvan*; more populous than spacious. The Patron hereof is *the Bishop of Dumblain*, in the right of *the Abbacy of Crosseraguel*. The parish abounds with gentry and mansion-houses, all alongst *Girvan*; which gives a very delightful prospect to any, who from the top of the hills that guard the scene, shall look down on that pleasant trough. They are *Pinkhill*, *Killochan*, *Bargeny*, *Burnstowne*, *Dalquharran*, *Moorestowne*, *Drummochrin*, *Drumburle*, *Drummellan*, and *Barclanahan*.

THE PARISH OF KIRKOSWALD is pretty populous because of the coast syde whereof it consists, and is all the pleasure thereof; for the place of *the Churche's* situation is very obscure and unpleasant, being 'twixt two hills, at the end of a bogue or marish. The Patron hereof is *the Bishop of Dumblane*, in the right of THE ABBACY OF CROSSERAGUELL. The fabrick of which Abbey stands within this parish. The Monks were of the Cistercian order. The situation thereof is no way pleasant. The fabrick of the church is entyre, without a roofe. Much of the building is demolished, but there are two towers still standing entyre, in their walls. It stands about mid-way 'twixt *Mayboll* and *Kirkoswald*. The houses of the gentry residing in this parish are, *the Cove*, *Thomastowne*, *Beltersan*, and *Balsarah*, and *Thraw*. The two last are obscure countrey dwellings; but *Beltersan* is a stately, fyne house, with gardens, orchards, parks, and woods about it; lying from *Mayboll* about ane myle distant. *The Core* is the mansion-house of *Sir Archibald Kennedy of Colaine*, and takes its name hence, that under the outer area of this house there be three naturall COVES, which enter laigh at the water mark. From the one they enter upward to a higher, by ane easie ascent; but the entry to the third is more difficult, being both low in the entry and strait; and in the highest of them there is a spring of very good water.



GENERAL VIEW

OF THE

AGRICULTURE

OF THE

COUNTY OF AYR,

WITH OBSERVATIONS ON THE MEANS OF ITS IMPROVEMENT,

BY

COLONEL FULLARTON
OF FULLARTON,

DRAWN UP FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND GENERAL IMPROVEMENT.

1793.



GENERAL VIEW

OF THE

AGRICULTURE OF THE COUNTY OF AYR.

1793.

[NOTE.—The "Advertisement" which precedes the valuable and exhaustive contribution of Colonel Fullarton of Fullarton, which follows, states that the contribution of the gallant Colonel was "drawn up for the consideration of the Board of Agriculture" and printed, "merely for the purpose of its being circulated" in Ayrshire, "in order that every person interested in the welfare of that county, may have it in his power to examine it fully before it is now published. It is therefore requested," proceeds the Advertisement, "that any remark, or additional observation, which may occur to the reader on the perusal of the following sheets, may be transmitted to the Board of Agriculture, at its office in London, by whom the same shall be properly attended to; and when the returns are completed, an account will be drawn up of the State of Agriculture in Ayrshire from the information thus accumulated; which, it is believed, will be found greatly superior to anything of the kind ever yet made public."

Colonel William Fullarton of Fullarton was born in 1754, succeeded to his property when little more than five years of age, received his early education in Edinburgh, and then, in 1770, travelled on the continent of Europe. He was distinguished from his earliest years by an ardour in the acquisition of knowledge. His tutor, during his continental tour, was Patrick Brydone, a gentleman of eminent literary attainments. It was of Colonel Fullarton that Burns wrote:—

Brydone's brave WARD I well could spy
Beneath old Scotia's smiling eye;
Who called on Fame, low standing by,
To hand him on,
Where many a patriot name on high,
And hero shone.

"In 1775," says Paterson in his History of Ayrshire, "when only twenty-one years of age, he was appointed principal Secretary to the Embassy of Lord Stormont, at the Court of France. In 1780 he communicated to the Administration the plan of an expedition to Mexico against the Spaniards. This project having been approved of, he instantly set about putting it into execution, and with this view raised the 98th regiment of infantry. 'But,' says Sir John Dalrymple, 'the unexpected breaking out of the Dutch war obliged the expedition intended for Mexico to be sent upon an attack on the Cape of Good Hope; and when that was found improper, it was employed in the war of India, where Colonel MacKenzie bravely fell in his country's cause. His friend (Colonel Fullarton) returned on the peace, covered with laurels, to defend her liberties in the Senate.' As thus related by Sir John, on the interruption of the expedition to South America, Col. Fullarton, with the troops under his command, proceeded to India, and with them served on board Commodore Jackson's fleet. In May, 1783, he received the command of the Southern Army on the coast of Coromandel—a force consisting of upwards of 13,000 men. His campaigns and operations, with his army, in that and the succeeding year, were attended with a rapidity and brilliancy of success altogether unknown in that distempered and enervating climate. On his return to Europe he published a work entitled "A view of the English Interest in India," &c., together with an account of his campaigns there in the years 1782, 1783, and 1784, in which work he has given a very particular and interesting narrative of these transactions, as well as much curious and valuable information relative to the history of our eastern empire. Colonel Fullarton was frequently a member of the House of

Commons—twice was he returned for his native County of Ayr, the last time of which his election was unanimous. At the breaking out of the French War in the year 1793, he raised the 23rd Light Dragoons, then called 'Fullarton's Light Horse,' and also the 101st regiment of infantry; and in 1801 was appointed first Commissioner, or Governor, of the Island of Trinidad. In this situation, however, he remained but a short time, returning in the year 1803.

The short intervals he enjoyed from public employment were assiduously devoted to the study of science and literature. In 1793, at the request of the President of the Board of Agriculture (Sir John Sinclair, Bart.), he wrote 'An account of the Agriculture of the County of Ayr, with Observations on the means of its improvement,' which the same year was printed and generally circulated in the County and elsewhere. This Report, as also an Essay which he wrote in 1801, addressed to the Board of Agriculture in England, on the best method of turning grass lands into tillage, has been highly esteemed, both for the accuracy of the scientific observations and the classical elegance of the composition.

In the year 1792 he married the Hon. Marianne Mackay, eldest daughter of George, fifth Lord Reay, by Elizabeth, daughter of John, second son of Fairlie (formerly Dreghorn), Ayrshire.

Colonel Fullarton died at London, 13th February, 1808, at the age of 54 years, deeply regretted by a numerous circle of friends, to whom he was much endeared, not more for his highly cultivated mind, in every branch of literature and science, than from his amiable dispositions and condescending affability; which latter quality entwined him round the hearts and affections of his vassals and tenantry. He was interred within the church of Isleworth, where has been placed to his memory a marble tablet, with an appropriate Latin inscription."

Colonel Fullarton's treatise is dated "Fullarton, Ayrshire, November, 1793," and, as already stated, was addressed to Sir John Sinclair, Bart., President of the Board of Agriculture. The "Notes" are Colonel Fullarton's:—]

INTRODUCTION.

It will afford me real satisfaction, if the following observations, on the agriculture and improvement of AYRSHIRE, shall fulfil the object of your application, and prove conducive to the purposes of that valuable institution, which you have been so instrumental in establishing.—Every landholder, whatever his pursuits in life may be, is bound in duty, and it is fortunate if he be also led by inclination, to promote the arts of cultivation, which form the basis of all national prosperity. Happily for this country, the superior influence of our constitution has, in no instance, been more conspicuous, than in its operation on every species of agricultural improvement. Insomuch, that, although some favoured spots, such as Lombardy and Flanders, have brought that art to an astonishing height of perfection;—there is no country in Europe, where men, possessing property in land, have so generally applied their skill and capital, to the encouragement of husbandry, and the introduction of new modes of cultivation. Neither is there any circumstance, which has tended more to aggravate the signal calamities, accumulated on the landed proprietors of a neighbouring and distracted nation, than their prevailing ignorance and inattention to that useful art, which it is the pride of this country to have cherished with success; and which, under the influence of so respectable an institution as that where you preside, we may hope to see advancing to a still higher pitch of improvement.

EXTENT.

The county of AYR extends 90 miles along the western coast of Scotland, from its southern boundary, near Loch-Ryan, in Wigtonshire, to Kelly Bridge, which separates it from Renfrewshire upon the north. Its breadth is in general from 20 to 25 miles. This county contains three divisions; Carrick, on the south; Kyle, in the centre; and Cunninghame, which includes all the northern district.

In so large a tract of country great variety of soil prevails. On the shore it is generally light and sandy, interspersed with deep and fertile loam. A great part of the county is of a strong productive clay. In many parts a bare till or schistus extends for miles; and over it only a few inches of better clay soil. Further up the country there is a kind of spongy clay land, cold, wet, and obdurate; producing grass, unfit, in its present state, for fattening cattle, and merely sufficient to keep alive a breeding stock. On the eastern boundaries of the county, the land is high and mooriah, intersected with mosses, bogs and marshes.

In describing the agriculture of a county so extensive as Ayrshire, it is extremely difficult to specify the various particulars respecting the soil, management, and produce, without de-

scending to a very tedious minuteness of explanation. I am sensible, too, that this, like other geographical essays, must unavoidably be the dullest of all writings, except to those who mean to derive practical benefit from the communication. It shall, however, be my endeavour, to lay before you such a view, as may leave no material fact omitted:—Conceiving it to be your object, to trace the various causes which have retarded or accelerated the progress of improvement, and to collect the statement of all that is excellent or defective in the agricultural system of every county; in order that your Board may be enabled to deduce results, and form conclusions tending to the general advantage of the kingdom.

ANTIENT STATE.

Before we enter on the present state of Ayrshire practice, it is essential to explain the barbarous mismanagement from whence the county has emerged; containing, like many other parts of Scotland, and various spots in England, almost every thing that a good farmer ought to avoid. But, as acquired and rooted ignorance, is more difficult to conquer, than mere absence of skill or knowledge, much praise is due to the landholders and farmers of this county, for the very rapid progress they have already made. A stranger, passing through these districts, must be surprised to observe such a multitude of agricultural defects still existing: But his applause would undoubtedly be excited, when he understood the great difference between the present management and that which took place forty years ago. At that period, there was hardly a practicable road in the county; whereas, at present, few parts of the kingdom are so well supplied in that particular. The farm-houses were mere hovels, moated with clay, having an open hearth or fire-place in the middle; the dunghill at the door; the cattle starving; and the people wretched. The few ditches which existed were ill constructed, and the hedges worse preserved. The land over-run with weeds and rushes, gathered into very high, broad, serpentine ridges, interrupted with large baulks, such as still disgrace the agriculture of some English counties. The little soil there was, collected on the top of the ridge, and the furrow drowned with water. No fallows,—no green crops,—no sown grass,—no carts or waggons,—no straw yards; hardly a potatoe, or any other esculent root, and, indeed, no garden vegetables; unless a few Scotch kail, which, with milk and oatmeal, formed the diet of the people: With little straw, and no hay, except a scanty portion of the coarsest quality collected from the bogs. The quantity of dung produced was of small avail; and that portion, little as it was, the farmers dragged on cars or sledges, or on what were called tumbler-wheels, which turned with the axletree, and supported the wretched vehicle, hardly able to draw 5 cwt.——The ground was scourged with a succession of oats after oats, as long as they would pay for seed and labour, and afford a small surplus of oatmeal for the family; and then remained in a state of absolute sterility, or over-run with thistles, till rest enabled it again to reproduce a scanty crop.

The arable farms were generally small, because the tenants had not stock for larger occupations. A ploughgate of land, or as much as could employ four horses, allowing half of it to be ploughed, was a common sized farm. It was often runridge or mixed property; and two or three farmers usually lived in the same place, and had their different distributions of the farm, in various proportions, from 10 to 40, 60, or 100 acres.

Many of these leases were granted for three 19 years. The rent was frequently paid in kind, or in what was called half labour, by the steel-bow tenants, like the *Metayers* of France; the stock and implements being furnished mutually, or on such terms as could be fixed. One half of the crop went to the landlord; and the other remained with the tenant, to maintain his family and to cultivate his farm. The tenants were harassed with a multitude of vexatious servitudes; such as, ploughing and leading for the landlord, working his hay, and other operations; which, from the nature of them, unavoidably interfered with the attention necessary on the tenant's own farm. These are now almost entirely abolished.

[NOTE.—Of this mode, there is at present but one remaining instance in the county.]

The farm was divided into what was called the croft, or in-field, and the out-field land.

The croft, which commonly was a chosen spot near the house, after two or three crops of oats, received all the dung produced from the farm; and then was sown with bigg or four-rowed barley. It then remained a year in lay; and was broke up the following season to undergo the same rotation.—As to the out-field land, it remained in a state of absolute reprobation. No dung was ever spread on any part of it. The starved cattle kept on the farm, were suffered to poach the fields, from the end of Harvest, till the ensuing seedtime; and thus the roots of natural grass were cut on all the

clay lands, or drowned with water standing in the cattle's footsteps. The horses, during Winter, were fed on straw, on boiled chaff or weak corn, and on such hay as the bogs and marshes spontaneously produced.

As the winter seasons, in Ayrshire, are extremely wet, the plough was never yoked till Candlemas.—It does not appear that the farmers were in the practice of using more than four horses to each plough; but, there was a man to hold, another to drive, and a third to clear the mould board, and keep the coulter in the ground. The plough was of the Scotch kind; and, as the land was generally stiff and full of stones, and never properly cultivated, it was thought necessary to construct it of the strongest and most clumsy materials.—The cold and rainy springs suggested the practice of sowing extremely late, so that oats were seldom harrowed in before April; and it was not unfrequently the end of May, before the bigg, or four-rowed barley, was put in the ground.

As there were few or no inclosures, the horses and cattle were either *tethered*, during the Summer months, or trusted to the direction of a herd and cur-dog, by whom the poor starved animals were kept in constant agitation; being impelled, through famine, to fly from their bare lays, and commit continual depredations on the adjacent crops.

Every farmer sowed a sufficiency of flax to employ the women of his family at leisure hours. A small portion of hemp was likewise planted to make sacks and other coarse materials needed on the farm. And a quantity of wool was either bought or reared for the purpose of spinning woolen stuffs to cloath the family. These, as well as the linen were usually worked by some weaver in the neighbourhood, and supplied the dress of both sexes. The stalks of hemp were substituted in the place of candles; and, even in situations adjoining to a coalliery, whole months were wasted in cutting, drying, and leading peat; to serve as fuel.

The cattle starved during Winter, hardly able to rise without aid in Spring, and perpetually harassed during summer, never were in fit condition for the market. But undoubtedly they must have been of an admirable race and stamina, otherwise they never could have survived the treatment they experienced.

Very little butcher meat was used, excepting a proportion, which every family salted at Martinmas, to serve during Winter, with their grots, or prepared barley, and kail or broth. The rest of their food consisting at that time, only of porridge, oatmeal cakes, and some milk or cheese. So small was the consumption of butcher meat in this province 50 years ago, that there were not more than fifty head of cattle annually killed in the county town of Ayr, at that period, although it contained from 4 to 5000 inhabitants: And, now, there are several thousand cattle, besides great quantities of sheep, killed every year; insomuch, that it is one of the best markets in the kingdom.

Wretched as the system of management was, it is obvious, that the light, rich lands, would by no means suffer in the same proportion with the hard and tilly soils. On the contrary, they produced considerable quantities of grass, and kept the cattle, fed on them, in good condition.

[NOTE.—Till, is an obdurate schistus or clay, unmixed with vegetable or animal substances, and unfit for purposes of vegetation, until it has undergone a very long amelioration. It is of so tenacious a nature as to hold water, thereby chilling and drowning the plants in wet seasons; and, as it cracks and hardens, like a brick, in dry weather, it may be considered as the most unpropitious of all soils.]

With respect to the moorland part of the county; as its bleak and elevated situation, with the cold, wet nature of the soil, render it by no means favourable to the growth of corn, under any mode of management, it necessarily, in those days, retained a relative barbarism with the lower districts. The moor farmers in general occupied great tracts of land. They were perfectly unacquainted with planting or inclosures. In the bottoms, some small lots of corn were cultivated, and a few loads of coarse hay obtained from the meadows. The farms were stocked with a proportion of black cattle, which when fat, did not weigh more than 16 or 20 stone English and with a small hardy race of wild, black-faced sheep, weighing when fat, about 10 lb. English per quarter, and yielding not more than two or three pounds of very coarse wool per fleece. The moor farmers having hardly any fodder, and no green feeding for their sheep and cattle, the flock was regulated by the number that could be subsisted in hard weather.

The state of markets was in general so low, and public credit so ill established, that no tenant could command money to stock his farm; and few landholders could raise the means of improving their estates. Indeed, when a laird wished to raise money, he was obliged to sell his property, perhaps for 20 years purchase, or accept of loans on wadset: The nature of the obligation being, that if the

money was not repaid within a specified time, the land became the property of the lender.

There were no manufactures in the county, excepting of bonnets at Stewarton, and of shoes and carpets at Kilmarnock. Exports and imports from the harbours of Ayr, Irvine, and Saltcoats, were on a very small scale indeed. In general, the finest lands were let for 2 or 3 shillings per acre; and there was neither skill, capital, industry, nor credit in the country to do away the wretchedness described.

[NOTE.—It is, however, true, that some rich holms and bottoms paid in kind to the extent even of two bolls of bear or bigg per acre.]

The consequences of such mismanagement were truly deplorable. The people having hardly any substitute for oatmeal, were entirely at the mercy of the season. If the seedtime was unfavourable, the summer bad, or the autumn late and stormy; a dearth or famine unavoidably ensued. The price of meal fluctuated, therefore, between extremes, which are never known in countries better cultivated; or where the means of subsistence are so varied, as to render the failure of one species suppliable by some other. At the beginning of this century, and end of the last, there was a succession of bad seasons which lasted several years, and reduced the county of Ayr, and other provinces adjacent, to the lowest gradation of want; obliging hundreds of families to fly for subsistence to the north of Ireland, where their descendants still remain. At that time, the price of oatmeal rose to 2s 6d per peck, weighing 8 lb. 10 oz. English.

[NOTE.—Frequently from 6d to 1s 6d per peck, whereas, under the present improved mode of cultivation, it seldom varies more than 1d or 2d above, or below 1s per peck.]

In those seasons of misery, the poor people have not infrequently been obliged to subsist by bleeding their cattle, and mixing the blood so procured, with what oatmeal they could procure.

(NOTE.—On reading this description, one would think it applied to the dark and gloomy periods of the lower ages, when the best fields in Italy were desolate; and when the north of Europe, under barbarous landlords, with serfs or bondsmen for their cultivators, exhibited those scenes of ignorance and indigence, so emphatically described by Sigonius and Potgesserus.)

CHANGE OF SYSTEM.

In a country, such as Scotland, where soil and climate, in many instances, unite to counteract the endeavours of the cultivator; it required extraordinary exertions indeed, to bring the county of Ayr in so short a time from the degradation already stated, to that period of improvement, which, if continued for a few years longer, will entitle it to rank amongst the most productive districts in Great Britain.

The means by which this important change has been effected, require to be detailed. The landed property of Ayrshire was parcelled out among a multitude of proprietors, under very different descriptions; from the petty feuar or emphyteutical holder, paying a fixed rent in perpetuity, for a house and garden, through all the gradations of vassals holding the property of farms, and paying quit rents to subjects-superior; and of persons who according to the feudal titles of Scotland, held estates in *capite* under the crown, from a few acres to 100,000, which is the largest in the county. In short, the tenures by which land was held, were various as the extent and value of the different estates.

[NOTE.—Those feuars, of whom there are many in the country, probably paid the current rent for their feus at the time they were granted, and in some cases perhaps more. But such has been the rise in the value of landed property, that these feu duties, now, are so perfectly disproportioned to the actual rent, that they are little more than a mere acknowledgment, that the land is held of the subject superior. It has always occurred to me, that if landholders chuse to grant feus, in perpetuity for a rent certain, which is at best an improvident transaction, the rent should be specified, not in coin, which varies in its value, but in grain, which at all times must necessarily be the permanent standard of value in every country.]

The small proprietor of 50 or 100 acres, was seldom sufficiently active or intelligent to introduce amelioration. Contented with the produce of his fields, on the old system, he left improvements to the upper order of proprietors. The medium lairds, or country gentlemen, were frequently driven by their situations and professions into various quarters of the globe; and were no less distinguished by their enlightened education, than by their intelligence and success in various walks of life. But their habits and observations had hardly ever been applied to the best of all purposes, the cultivation of their native soil. Any attempts they made were feeble, desultory, and unavailing; while the great lords and large proprietors, possessed such extensive tracts of uncultivated

land, that to attempt a general system of improvement appeared beyond their means: Neither was any plan thought of, for bringing the active exertions of the landed interest into one point of union and effect. On the contrary, deep rooted prejudices against innovation prevailed, especially amongst the inferior classes of renters and proprietors. The tenant considered all amelioration as tending only to augment his labour and increase his rent. If any landholder was hardy enough occasionally to attempt improvement, he had every possible obstacle to contend with. Labourers were ignorant and indolent. Stock, and implements, entirely inadequate and inapplicable to rational principles of husbandry, and much time, labour, and expense, were wasted before any benefit could be derived from an improved mode of cultivation, in a country where the common elements of farming were rude and barbarous. No wonder, then, if those who first essayed the arduous undertaking were disappointed in their hopes, and commonly impaired the property they meant to increase.

Fortunately, however, the country possessed within itself the means of improvement in a superior degree. Extensive tracts of very rich and valuable land; abundance of coal and lime, almost in every quarter; a number of towns and villages; which, although at that time destitute of arts and manufactures, were however commodiously situated, and scattered over the different districts of the county.

EXERTIONS OF INDIVIDUALS.

But these advantages might long have continued dormant, had they not been called forth by the superior energies of a few individuals, to whom the present advancement of the county is chiefly due.

About 40 years ago, the late Earl of Eglinton, who possessed a very large and valuable property, dispersed over a great extent, in the most improveable parts of Ayrshire, resolved to rescue his estates from the condition in which he found them. An eminent farmer, Mr Wight of Ormiston, was brought from East Lothian to introduce the proper mode of ploughing, levelling ridges, fallowing, drilling, turnip husbandry, and rotations of crop. Great attention was bestowed on the breed of horses and cattle. Ploughmen and dairy people were brought from various parts of England. Fences were made on an extensive scale, and the county was beautified by a multitude of clumps, belts, and plantations. The noblemen and gentlemen very zealously concurred in promoting measures so conducive to their own advantage and to the general interest of their country. The demand for cheese and butter to supply the multiplying wants of Glasgow, Paisley, Greenock, and Port-Glasgow, led to increasing care respecting milch cows and dairies. The English market afforded ready sale for black cattle; and the growing manufactures of the country introduced the benefits of opulence.

INCREASING OPULENCE—ESTABLISHMENT OF BANKS.

These concurring circumstances gave rise to private or county banks and paper circulation; and by their means the landholders, whose security was good, but who were in general destitute of ready money, were enabled to discount bills, procure cash accompts, and establish other modes of credit for the improvement of their estates. At the same time, industrious tenants, joining together as securities for each other, were accommodated with money to stock and cultivate their farms. Whatever disadvantages may result from an overstrained circulation of paper currency, or incautious extension of credit; yet, in this instance, the effects of such pecuniary accommodations were truly beneficial. In a very short time, good turnpike roads were completed in every direction; wheel-carriages were gradually introduced; coallieries and lime quarries were opened; draw-kilns erected; almost every field was divided by hedge and ditch; good farm-houses were constructed; sown grasses prevailed; the breed of animals was improved; the lowest class of people were enabled to live better, by the introduction and general use of potatoes. The seat of every considerable person was ornamented with planting, and his fields improved; and there hardly remained a proprietor, of any condition whatever, who did not, in some form or other, promote the interesting work of cultivation.

OBSTACLES TO IMPROVEMENT.

Great as these advantages appear, they were inadequate to produce the superior benefits which the county has attained. It is to be observed, that, notwithstanding the advancement already mentioned, agriculture remained almost without a beacon or directory to guide its course, or specify its progress. Much advantage had indeed been derived from imitating the better practice of East-Lothian, and some of the well managed provinces in England. But the mode of agriculture, established in these places, presupposed skill and industry in the labourer, stock and knowledge in the farmer, and a regulated cultivation; without which,

the best blessings of soil and climate will prove unavailing. Besides, the indiscriminate adoption of plans and systems, formed for other districts, soils, and climates, was liable to infinite objections. For example, the ingenious Secretary of your Board maintains, that the only mode, by which a scientific or successful husbandry can any where be established, is by granting extensive farms to opulent and skillful tenants. But, in the present instance, this became impracticable; because, without alluding to the necessary portion of industry and skill, few tenants had stock and implements sufficient for 80 or 100 acres.—It is farther to be observed, that in a soil and climate where ploughing, sowing, reaping, and stacking corn are liable to constant interruptions; it is hardly possible for any farmer to manage, without loss, a large quantity of land in tillage; and, at any rate, it tends to diminish the number of farmers and their families, substituting hinds and cottagers, and labouring servants in their place.

[NOTE.—Pliny's opinion on this subject is expressed in the following words: "Modum agri in primis servandum, antiqui, putavere. Quippe, ita censebant, satius esse minus serere et melius arare."—And Virgil says,

——————"Laudato ingentia rura
"Exiguum colito."]

When the practice of winter-ploughing, so prevalent in dryer climates and in lighter soils, was attempted on the deep and tilly parts of Ayrshire, the land was so drenched as to yield a scanty produce. In like manner, numberless improvers lost their crops by sowing early, in imitation of their southern neighbours; and many a field of clay, by summer fallowing in a rainy season, was rendered only fit to be converted into brick or mortar. When the high and crooked ridges were attempted to be cleared and levelled, the productive soil was buried and a sterile till was thrown upon the surface; which, having been excluded from the air, and unmixed with any animal or vegetable substance, required a long course of ploughing, manure, and exposure to the atmosphere, before it could afford the pabulum of vegetation: Insomuch, that the tract of old ridges is frequently marked with barrenness, at this day, in fields, which, after being levelled, have for 20 years undergone a successive course of cultivation. In short, when any person, implicitly adopting the management of other counties, laid no other limitations upon his tenants than such as were adapted to places, where the land was already dressed and drained, the soil and climate dry, and a proper rotation of crops established; he was invariably disappointed in his objects; and the farm, at the mercy of unrestrained and unskilful tillage, became little better than a caput mortuum.

In this situation the wisest cultivator around Ghent, Bruges, or Alost, would have found himself perplexed. His endeavours to lay the land clean, and dry, by straight furrows, well-proportioned ridges, and frequent drills, would have been frustrated, or at best have proved a tedious and expensive undertaking, in a country where the ridges were high, crooked, full of stones and baulks; where every furrow was like a ditch, and every head-ridge a mound to prevent the outlet of the water.

Had he brought the best ploughmen from Norfolk, who, at home, with two horses, will work near two acres daily, he would have found them soon conform to the Ayrshire complement of 3 roods; while the native labourer would have learned from his instructors to refuse employment on any other work. In vain would he have attempted to save his land from poaching, and to increase manure by feeding every animal upon the farm within doors, as is the practice of the Netherlands. It would have required years before he could get into a course of clover, sainfoin, vetches, tares, and lucerne, for summer feeding; and into cole, cabbage, carrots, turnips, rape, and oilcakes for winter. And, after all, he would have found neither shed nor straw-yard on the farm, in which his stock could be accommodated.

NEW SYSTEM INTRODUCED.

Under these difficulties, it was fortunate for the county, that a gentleman of considerable property, united with great abilities and observation, (Mr Fairly of Fairly), devoted his attention to the gradual correction of abuses, which no power or influence could at once abolish. Knowing the imperfect nature of the instruments he had to work with, he determined to proceed by a less rapid, but more certain, operation. Every farm, as it came out of lease, was inclosed and divided by sufficient fences into three or more parts, and was allowed to remain in grass, till it recovered from the exhausting course of evil management already stated. About 100 bolls of slacked lime were spread upon the sward of each acre. A convenient house and offices were completed, and in this condition, it was ready for a tenant.

[NOTE.—The Ayrshire boll of lime contains 4 Winchester bushels, costing, at the draw kill, from 3d to 5d and 6d per boll.]

But, in order to preserve the benefits so tediously and expensively acquired, the most pointed limitations were necessary; not only to prevent the farmer from reducing his land by bad management, to its former wretched situation, but to enforce a rational system of amendment.

The lease was usually granted for 18 years; and the covenants obliged the tenant, not to plough more than one third of the farm in any one year nor to plough the same land more than three years successively. With the third crop, the tenant was bound to sow 3 bushels of rye-grass, and 12 lb. of clover. To cut it for hay only one year, and pasture 5, before the same could be ploughed again. The tenant was bound to keep the houses in repair, to maintain the gates and fences; and in case of failure, the landlord might employ labourers, and charge the amount with the next year's rent. The fodder was stipulated to be consumed upon the ground, and all the manure to be spread upon it. Heavy additional rents were specified for every acre ploughed beyond the limitation: And these rents were not in the form of penalties, but as a compensation for the very serious loss incurred by cropping the ground beyond the periods admitted by the lease.

In confirmation of these remarks, it is to be observed that the same ground which in pasture yields 20s per acre, is frequently worth £5 or £6 per acre annually for 3 years' ploughing. It is not surprising, therefore, that any attempts to invalidate the course of such covenants by appealing against the right of landlords to impose limitations on their tenants, should have excited the strongest feelings of alarm, and occasioned impressions of positive wrong on the minds of all persons, connected with the landed interest, whose properties might be injured to the amount of many hundreds per cent., and reduced to their ancient sterility, if the courts of justice were to cease supporting these covenants.

Under the regulations specified by Mr Fairlie, there never could be more than one-third of the farm in crop; and no land could be ploughed till it had lain six years in grass. The produce on one-third of the farm so ploughed was usually double or triple that which the whole yielded under the old management of croft and out-field land. The remaining two-thirds being sown down with all the lime, dung, and manure that could be collected, afforded a supply of hay and grass more valuable than the whole produce of the farm under the ancient system. Those farmers who persisted in raising three successive crops of oats, undoubtedly scourged the land as much as could be done in three years, or as could well be recovered by six years of rest under sown grass. But many farmers had sense enough to take beans and pease as the second crop, and to sow bigg or barley, and grass seeds for the third; by which means the land has been brought into a condition capable of yielding crops hardly equalled, and certainly not surpassed in any part of Great Britain. The same gentleman, having fortunately undertaken the superintendence of the estates of the present Earl of Eglintoun, and applied his system to the management of that extensive property; in the space of little more than 20 years, has established a reformation so complete, that it is universally adopted almost on every arable estate in Ayrshire. The consequences are, abundant crops of grain; plentiful returns of hay; and the finest pasture where little or no pasture grew before. Indeed, the principle of not allowing more than three successive crops to be taken off the same field, without rest or intervening fallow, and of sowing grass seeds along with the third and last crops, is so completely established, that the tenant attempting to depart from that course, without stipulation, would be held, by the judicial county courts, as acting wrongfully to the proprietor, and an interdict would be obtained against him, on the principle that he was deviating from the usage of the country, to the detriment of the proprietor, who is understood to let the use but not the abuse of the land.

STATE OF PROPERTY.

The division of property, as has been already stated, is extremely various; and the different circumstances, respecting its extent and distribution, are expressed in a column annexed to the map which accompanies this paper.

A great proportion of the landed estates have changed their owners in consequence of individual extravagance, expensive engagements, and the distress occasioned by the failure of the Ayr bank in the year 1772.

The run-ridge and mingled property is now almost entirely divided; and unless around some burghs and villages, and in a few other instances, there are no common lands in the county.

[NOTE.—There are three tenures of land in this county, which, from their uncommonness, deserve to be recorded. The first is of the Lands of Priestwick, on the coast of Coil, erected into a burgh by very ancient charters; under the direction of a chancellor, baillies, and other borough officers. There are about

1000 acres of land divided among 36 freemen, or barons as they are called. Each possesses a lot of arable ground, and a right of pasturing a specified number of sheep and cattle on the common. The lots do not remain in perpetuity with any one possessor, but are appropriated from time to time by drawing for them at the end of a certain number of years; and no freeman can sell his property without consent of the corporation. The next tenure, is that of Newton upon Ayr, very accurately described by the Rev. Mr Peebles, in his Statistical Report of that parish, already published. The property belonging to the community contains about 200 arable acres, divided among 48 freemen, and 150 acres in common among them. The last, and most remarkable, consists of 240 acres of rich land, held by 40 persons in lots of 6 acres each, adjoining to Kilmaurs, (which was erected into a burgh of barony by King James V.) under a charter granted by the Earl of Glencairn 1577; the holders paying at the rate of 2 merks for each 40th part. By this charter, the Earl of Glencairn binds himself to allow no articles of manufacture to be made on the estate, nor any article of produce to be sold, excepting in the said burgh of barony. His object undoubtedly was by these restrictive grants and privileges, to allure ingenious tradesmen to the burgh of Kilmaurs. But his intentions were frustrated; for the tradesmen so established, and their descendants, have generally forsaken the business of handicraft, and employed themselves in cultivating their respective lots, which still continue run-ridge. On this land, for many years, were raised plants of Scotch kail, so valuable that great part of Scotland was supplied with them; but in no other respect has either agriculture or manufacture benefited by these three institutions. The particulars of this charter, and the strange tenure in question, are accurately stated by the Rev. Mr Millar in his excellent Statistical account of the parish of Kilmaurs.]

The proprietors are unacquainted with many obstacles to improvement, which exist in the southern part of the island. The land-tax, together with conversion of statute labour for repairing of roads, minister's stipend, and salaries to schoolmasters, are the only assessments to which the lands are subjected. These are usually made payable by the tenant, over and above the rent specified in his lease; and seldom amount to more than 2 or 3 per cent. of the actual rent.

VALUE OF THE LAND—PRODUCE—KINDS OF GRAIN.

The light sandy links, and downs along the shore, being unfit for tillage, ought either to be planted, or let in rabbit warren, which yields near 10s per acre, while it is hardly worth 5s for pasture. The flat and arable parts ought to be covered with 200 or 300 cart loads of clay; and the practice of folding or flaking sheep on turnips as a preparative for barley and grass seeds, is found an eligible system. Potatoes, and all the kinds of Scotch kail, or curled greens, also succeed extremely well. These lands, under such management, are worth from 10s to 20s per acre, according to the staple of the soil. The better quality of strong clays are generally let from 20s to 30s per acre; and loams, or rich gravel, from 30s to 40s.

[NOTE.—This system has not only been found extremely beneficial in many parts of England, but is recommended by the best farmers of antiquity.—"Ubi fementim facturus eris, ibi oves delectato, et frondem usque ad pabula matura." CAT. Cap. 30.——And Pliny says, "Sunt qui optime stercorari putent, sub Dio, retibus inclusa pecorum mansione." PLIN. Nat. Hist. lib. 18.]

On these soils, it is no unusual circumstance to raise 10 to 12 Winchester quarters of oats; 6 and 8 quarters of bigg or barley, and as much of beans, for which the soil of Ayrshire is in many places admirably adapted; although the wetness of the harvests renders it difficult to dry them. But this is in a great measure obviated by letting them remain till they become black and dry before they are cut. Beans are found to succeed well on lay; and it will be fortunate for the county, if the practice of using them, as an intervening crop between oats and barley, shall become more general. Many farmers approve of sowing pease along with beans, which cover the land more completely; but it must be the late kind of pease, otherwise they will not ripen with the beans.

Pease alone, though sometimes a productive crop in this county, are extremely troublesome to dry, occasioned by the wetness of the climate; neither do they usually yield more per acre than 5 or 6 bolls of four Winchester bushels each, worth about one guinea per boll.

TURNIPS.

There are not yet above a score of common farmers in the county who are in the practice of raising turnips. Their crops, however, prove extremely luxuriant, and several of them have adopted the best mode yet extant of using

turnips, namely, to draw every alternate turnip, and feed cattle with them in the house; to fold sheep and young stock on the remainder; and whenever a turnip is broken or spoiling, to draw it for the stall-fed cattle. By these means, the whole produce is turned to account; whereas in other places the finest crops are frequently destroyed in rainy seasons, for want of common care and skill.

WHEAT.

Wheat is not a crop in general practice: but those who raise it, whenever they take pains to clean their land, have good returns, usually from 4 to 6 Winchester quarters per acre. The red wheat is often sown, although the fine early Essex, Hertford, or Suffolk seed-wheat is preferable. But unless the grain be steeped in brine, we find it apt to blight and blacken. The wheat raised in Ayrshire is of an excellent quality, often weighing from 60 to 63 lbs. per bushel; yet the cultivation of this grain is liable to great objection. The summers are frequently so wet, and the harvest so late and stormy, that a large tract of land cannot properly be prepared for wheat, without a greater power of men and horses, than belongs to ordinary farmers. If ever it succeeds on an extensive scale, it must be after clover: the land having been previously enriched and cleaned with turnips, followed by barley, which, when good in this country, never fail to ensure a fine succeeding crop.

ROTATION OF CROPS.

Of all the rotations hitherto discovered, the best for Ayrshire appears to be from lay, oats, or beans. After these, in dry soils, turnips or other green crops, such as kail, vetches, tares, and potatoes.——In very strong soils drilled beans, cabbages, and carrots, may be substituted in the place of turnips. These followed by a crop of barley sown with grass-seeds. After the clover, wheat, or oats, and in very light lands, rye. By this mode, it is presumed, that wheat may be cultivated on a large scale with advantage. For if the harvest prove so wet, that the intended portion of land cannot be sown with winter wheat, it only requires sowing a larger quantity of oats or spring wheat, and still continuing the same rotation.

[NOTE.—Beans, on old rested lay, frequently yield 6 Winchester quarters per acre; worth about 32s per quarter.]

POTATOES.

The culture of potatoes is so universally established in every part of this county, that the poorest labourers, and the most extensive farmers, raise a sufficiency for their own consumption. It is observed, that so far from exhausting the land, potatoes, when luxuriant, are sure to be succeeded by an abundant crop. Various kinds of them are cultivated; but the round red and the round white of a dry nature are preferred, both for taste and produce. They are generally sold for 6d per peck, weighing 36 lb., or 8 shillings per boll of 16 pecks; and the value of L. 16 or L. 20, is not unfrequently gathered off an acre. In short, of all the benefits the lower classes of the community have acquired within the present century in this county, the general cultivation of potatoes is probably the most important. Lazy beds are almost entirely laid aside; and the potatoes are planted in the month of June, on land prepared by the plough, manured and drilled like other green crops, and are lifted before there be danger of the frost destroying them.

[NOTE.—The prejudices against potatoes have been found in many places almost unconquerable. An idea of their being a species of solanum, and consequently unwholesome, prevented their cultivation in Italy. And in France they were reckoned by the common people only fit for swine; until the celebrated Comptroller General, M. Turgot, exerted his influence, and introduced them while Intendant of Limoges, by ordering dishes of them in different forms to be regularly served at his own table every day.]

BIGG AND BARLEY.

The Ayrshire farmers very frequently prefer bigg to barley. The average weight of the former is only 48 lb. per Winchester bushel; while the latter is estimated at 52 lb. per bushel. But the bigg, having four rows instead of two, is more productive, and is likewise hardier and quicker in its vegetation; so that it may be later sown. This often proves a material advantage in such a climate, where the land for barley can seldom be prepared before the month of May; although it is thereby prevented from ripening till the beginning of September, which interferes with the oat harvest. Besides, till of late, the maltsters did not allow a price adequate to the difference of value between bigg and barley. But now, when barley sells at 28s per quarter, bigg may be had 4 or 5 shillings cheaper; although it is difficult to discover any difference in the ale brewed from these sorts of grain.

OATS.

With respect to oats, which form the great staple of provisions in the county, it may safely be asserted, that, in point of quality and produce, no county in the kingdom surpasses Ayrshire.

Those produced from lay are of the best and most farinacious quality. The second crop is usually better than the third. This grain being extremely impoverishing, farmers ought to learn that two crops of it should never be taken successively from any field.—The time of sowing is usually from the middle to the end of March. [NOTE.—The usual rule in better climates is to sow the cold wet lands early, reserving the warm dry bottoms till the last of the seedtime. Cato says: "Ubi quisque locus frigidissimus, aquosissimusque erit, ibi primum ferito. In calidissimis locis, fementim postremum sieri oportet." CATO, Cap. 34.—Whoever adopts this advice in Ayrshire is sure, in a wet seedtime, to impair his crop. For, in this country, we must follow Pliny's rule, Never to touch land when wet—"Lutofam terram ne tangito." PLIN. Nat. Hist. lib. 18.]

Much pains are taken to procure the best qualities of seed. The old kind of small grey Scotch oats did not yield much farina. The Dutch and Polish oats, although they ripen near a fortnight earlier than the common sorts, are extemely apt to shake with heavy winds; and are, besides, much thicker in the husks than the oats now cultivated in this county. These were originally raised on a bleak farm in Berwickshire called Blainsley, cleaned with great care, and sold for seed all over Scotland. They do not ripen very early; and the oat harvest seldom commences sooner than September, and does not finish before October.

WEIGHT OF GRAIN.

The average weight is 36lb. per bushel, which will produce meal at the rate of 18 pecks per Winchester quarter—each peck of meal weighing 8lb. 10oz. English weight, at 16oz. per pound. Upon the rich warm lands near the coast, no less than 22 pecks of meal have been produced from a quarter of oats. Farther up the country, the proportion will hardly exceed 16 pecks from 1 quarter of oats; and, in bad seasons, on the bleak parts of the moors, there will hardly be a return of 14 pecks of meal from a quarter of oats.

No fact can more clearly shew the absurdity of selling grain by measure instead of weight. For it is obvious that a quarter of oats, yielding 21 pecks of meal, is exactly worth 1½ quarter, yielding only 14 pecks of meal. This I took the liberty of suggesting to a member of the Privy Council, when the late corn bill was in agitation; and accompanied the statement with many observations on the subject, from an ingenious friend of mine, very deeply conversant in the corn trade. The good sense, however, of the Ayrshire farmers has at last adjusted this business, as well as could have been accomplished by the wisest legislative regulation. And now, bargains of grain are usually taken at a specified average weight, namely, at 36 lib. per bushel of oats, or 18 pecks of meal per quarter. When the grain weighs less, there is a diminution in the price, at the rate of 6d in the boll, for every pound of meal defaulting. If gentlemen in different parts of England essay their oats, they will find them seldom equal to this average; and the oats from Ireland, imported into Ayr, Irvine, and Saltcoats, are commonly sold 1s or 1s 6d per quarter cheaper than Ayrshire oats.

(NOTE.—The average price of oats in Ayrshire is about 16s per Winchester quarter, or 1s per peck of meal. When meal is lower, farmers can hardly pay their rents, and when much dearer, the poor are oppressed.)

CHIPPING AND STEEPING SEED.

In a climate such as this, when seedtime and harvest are constantly too late, several weeks might be gained by chipping or steeping the seed in moisture, and then covering it up under cloths or sacks in a barn or other warm place, for a few days, till it buds: By which means there will be the double advantage of proving the quality of the seed before it be sown, and of obtaining several weeks in its time of ripening. This mode is very generally practised in several parts of Russia; and I have known it with advantage applied to some kinds of grain and grass-seeds. Barley being a seed that very readily sprouts, and is usually sown in warm weather, will perhaps gain less by this practice, than beans, pease, oats, and other spring corn; and as for winter corn, the experiment would be preposterous.

(NOTE.—In Russia the Guinea or Indian corn is raised by this mode, and might, I doubt not, be brought to sufficient perfection in this climate, to act at least as a green crop, affording the finest of all green feeding for cattle. I have raised it to its full size in the open ground at this place; and it only requires, like potatoes, and other delicate productions of warm climates, not to be planted out while there is risk of frost.)

REAPING AND MODE OF PRESERVING CORN.

There is perhaps no county in the kingdom where the farmers are so handy and expert in reaping and managing their corns in rainy weather. The oats and barley are usually cut for 5s. per Scots acre, and put in shocks for 1s.

more. The stubble is cut extremely short, and no corn is left to encourage gleaners and other pilferers. Besides the usual complement of farm servants, an additional number are engaged for the harvest, or the whole may be contracted for at a certain rate per acre. Even in the most humid seasons it is extremely rare to find any corn lost, or much damaged; for the farmers are constantly turning and curing it, so as to prevent its rotting, even when the rains continue so severe for many weeks, as to render it impossible to take in the corn. When thoroughly dried, it is put up in stacks, containing each from 10 to 20 quarters. One of these is thrown into the barn, and threshed out as occasion may require.

[NOTE.—The *Birley-men*, or appraisers, are so expert in their valuation of corn in the shock, that on a field of 50 acres, they will estimate the produce within a few bushels. They cast and thresh every 20th or 40th sheaf, which gives them the average of the whole.——On the same principle, an attentive farmer, when he stacks his corn, ought to note the number of sheafs, and prove them in a similar mode. By these means he can exactly know the amount of grain contained in every stack, and prevent the possibility of imposition.]

THRESHING—APPRAISING.

Clean oats growing on clay and soil free from weeds, may be threshed, and the straw trussed up for 10d per quarter. But oats on foul and grassy soils are dearer. The usual practice, however, is, to employ the farm servants in winter mornings to thresh from 5 to 8; when they rub down their horses, and go to outdoor work.

THRESHING MACHINES.

The useful invention of a threshing machine has already been introduced into the county, and is found of superior utility. The principle upon which this mill performs, is by two cylinders or rollers turning quickly, and so placed, as to let all the straw pass through, and strip it from the grain. One of these machines to work with two horses, may be erected for L 30 or L. 40. It requires the attendance of three men, and will thresh 3 quarters of oats per hour so clean, that not one grain of corn remains upon the stalk. It enables a farmer to supply an unexpected demand, and to prevent the continual depredations to which every farmer is exposed, when a number of labourers have constant access to his barn.

[NOTE.—It may also be worked by water, when there is a proper fall, or power at hand.]

MULTURES.

Multures or servitudes to particular milns are in general abolished; and with a few exceptions, every farmer takes his grain to the miller who serves him best. In some parts of the county, however, a contrary practice still prevails. The usual price for drying and grinding, is 6d. per quarter of oats. Drying, steeping, and malting barley, 2s. And wheat is milled for 2s. per quarter.

HAY.

With respect to the culture and management of hay, notwithstanding the great quantities raised in all parts of the county, the whole system is still deficient. Instead of sowing 12 lb. weight per acre of the best red clover, 6 lb. of white or Dutch, and 4 lb. of yellow clover, with some plantain and other meadow grasses; it is usual to sow no more than 6 or 7 lb. of red clover, along with 1 or 2 bushels of ill chosen ryegrass, the greatest part of which is only an annual plant; although there be perennial ryegrass of superior quality; and all kinds of ryegrass are considered as a scourging crop.

It often happens, indeed, that the seed-merchants impose a weed called goose grass on the farmers, and thus the fields are poisoned and impoverished. The clover is seldom sown equal, but only with one cast of seed to a ridge, and the furrows being frequently wet; it is not usual to find a strong and regular crop of clover among ordinary tenants.

Grass meant to be preserved for hay is almost constantly allowed to stand so long that the seeds are formed and the juices dried. This exhausts the land, deprives the hay of nutriment, and throws the hay harvest so late that the autumnal rains commonly take place before it be concluded. The consequences are, great expense in the working, turning, and coiling, and drying it after a succession of showers, till the whole juice and substance is exhausted; and at last, it is frequently stacked in a state fit for nothing but litter.

The usual prices are 4d per stone for sown-grass-hay in the rick, and 6d for old hay. Notwithstanding these remarks, 200 or 300 stone per acre is not an unusual crop.

PASTURE.

Much improvement might also be made for the purposes of pasture by proper attention to cultivate the most valuable meadow grasses, such as timothy, fescue, plantain, and many others suited to the different soils. It is even not improbable that the Guinea grass, although the native of a very warm country, might be

brought to assimilate with this soil and climate. At present, the seeds and roots of the worst kinds of grass and weeds are so predominant throughout the county, that they choak the more valuable sorts when sown. This evil can hardly be eradicated till drills, fallows, and green crops become an established part of the system; and rotation of husbandry in every farm.

(NOTE.—The Romans were in use to fallow every alternate year, and reckoned *terra restibilis*, or ground which could bear crops every year extremely uncommon, and chiefly confined to the rich territory of Campania. On the other hand the Chinese never allow any land to remain in fallow or in pasture. See Voyages d'un Philosphe, par Le Poivre. How would a Chinese be confounded, says this author, if he beheld our wastes, and downs, and commons; our ill-dressed ridges, useless fallows, and bare fields!)

Neither has it been possible for any farmer in the county to extirpate sprits and rushes. When once rooted in the land, they are so continually nourished by the moisture of the climate, as well as the congenial nature of the soil, and their fibres are understood to be of so unperishable a texture: that after repeated drainings, and fallowings, they have sprung in full vigour as soon as the ground returned to grass.

[NOTE.—The antient georgical writers, particularly Columella, Pliny, and Palladius, all concur in representing rushes and other plants of a similar nature, as indications of a fertile soil.——COL. lib. ii. cap. 11. PLIN. Nat. Hist. lib. 18. cap. 6. PAL. lib. 1. tit. 5.]

The pasture in this county, however, is growing richer and better every day. White clover grows spontaneously. The ground has a natural tendency to the production of grass; and there is little doubt of its rivalling the best closes of Cheshire or of Yorkshire, as soon as the land is dry; the cattle restrained from poaching it in Winter: and the practice of topdressing pasture fields with dung, sea-weed, lime and compost generally introduced. At present, grass lands let, in the more cultivated parts, from 15s to 30s. per acre. On the bare unimproved clay soils, from 5s to 10s, while the hills and moors remain in their primitive sterility; and probably do not average more than 1s or 1s 6d per acre.]

STATE OF TILLAGE.

The actual state of tillage or mode of working the land, forms the next object of attention. The ridges still continue in many places very high and broad, the furrows being often 20, 30, and 40 feet asunder. In order to correct the evils of high ridges, without incurring the detriment of burying the good soil, and exposing an unfertile one, an ingenious gentleman, of great landed property, proposes a method founded on the simple principle of reducing the lowest part to a level.

(NOTE.—Mr Ferguson of Pitfour, Member for Aberdeenshire.)

With this view, he throws off the top soil with a spade from about 6 feet at the end of a ridge, extending the whole breath across the ridge. He then proceeds to throw the top soil, from the next 6 feet upon the surface so levelled; and advances with this sort of trenching till the whole field is reduced, keeping the producing soil at top, and making the process perform the purpose of a regular trenching, equal in respect of pulverising to 4 or 5 ploughings, and effected for 40s or 50s per acre. A more simple, cheap, and efficacious operation can hardly be imagined; and no county can possibly stand more in need of such a practice than the one in question.

TRENCHING.

Indeed, it long has been a doubt whether the system of working land by spading and trenching, so as to bring every field to a more pulverized state by the labour of man, to the exclusion of animals, is not one of the greatest improvements which can occur in any country. Without presuming to pronounce upon a point so often agitated, it is obvious that the land by such a process is completely cleaned, freed from stones, levelled, and pulverized. That the produce of garden stuffs, green crops, grain, and grass, is thus rendered far superior to the ordinary mode by tillage; that besides the advantage of employing the human species in place of the brute creation, the expense is little different. For example, to plough or fallow a field five times, with two horses and a driver, costs in Ayrshire between 30s and 40s per acre. To half trench an acre, with one spading and a shoveling, will cost about the same money; and a double trenching, with two spadings and two shovelings, in ordinary soil does not exceed 50s or L. 3 per acre.

The return from such management is truly surprising.—Acres so worked have been known to yield above 60 bolls of potatoes each; and a farmer near Grougar and Kilmarnock, a few years ago, on land prepared with double trenching, raised a crop of wheat, for which he received L. 19 per acre.

A still larger produce has frequently been raised on deep rich land, prepared with double trenching, and planted with the round hard-headed Scotch cabbage, and rows of beans between the intervals. But these instances cannot occur unless when the ground is well manured, and great attention bestowed on procuring seed of the best quality, and plants in full vigour; as there is probably no part of farming in which more loss accrues from indolence and ignorance, than in the careless choice of seed, and selection of plants.

But to return to ploughing.—Every rational farmer in this county is sensible, at last, of the advantages derived from straight furrows,—the ridges just sloping sufficiently to direct the water to the furrows, and not more than 12 feet wide. By this proportion, the field is laid entirely dry; the ridge may be sown at two castings, reaped with two sickles a-breast, and mowed with one scythe at two turns.

In this county, as in several others, the modes of ploughing are various, and in many cases exceptionable.—In light easy soils, devoid of stones, like different parts of Norfolk, the art of ploughing is so simple, that it may be performed almost in any way, and effected by a plough of any common construction. But, when the light, broad bottomed Norfolk plough, is used in the stiff stoney soils of Ayrshire, the work is most imperfectly performed. The object in this county is to make a furrow from 4 to 6 inches deep, according to the nature of the soil. In order to lay that furrow neatly up, shouldering to the next, it is necessary that the flake or furrow be at least one third wider than its depth. If it were only as broad as deep, it would be exactly a square; and the furrow, turned over, would just fill up the place left by the preceding flake.

The art of ploughing, perhaps, requires a nicer eye, steadier hands, and more attention than any other occupation; and yet, without fixed principles or rules of any kind, the most ignorant persons are trusted with a plough; although the difference of one man's ploughing and another's shall make the odds of 2 or 3 quarters produce per acre, on the same land: For it is obvious, that land unequally and irregularly ploughed, with flat, shallow, broad flakes, laid over on their backs, never can produce so well as when the furrows are taken deeper, narrower, and shouldered up against each other. By which means, there are more numerous intervals proper to receive the seed; and it is also better covered with the soil, protected from the bleaching rains and scorching heats, and enabled sooner to fulfil the purposes of vegetation.

We are, however, extremely inattentive to clean the lands from root-weeds, couch-grass, or quickens; and to destroy the multitude of annuals which continually spring in so wet a soil. Neither do we sufficiently pulverize the land by harrows, brakes, and rollers; without which, the tender germs and seeds can find no proper nidus to call forth their vegetating powers.—By attending to these particulars, and clearing the field of all superfluous moisture, by the judicious formation of water furrows to take off the rains and springs; a good ploughman can easily compensate for any additional wages his master can bestow upon him: Insomuch, that it would be better for a farmer to give a skilful Berwick or East-Lothian or Clackmannanshire ploughman double wages rather than allow the land to be ploughed gratis in the old Ayrshire form.

The more ordinary farmers still continue the old Scotch plough, which, for breaking up coarse land, and working strong stony soils, is probably the best of all; but it is extremely heavy, and requires four horses. In lighter and well cultivated soils, a smaller plough is used, and works easily with two horses, and without a driver. This mode, it is presumed, will very soon become general in the county. The Ayrshire ploughs, however, appear all too narrow in the bottom, by which it is more difficult to keep a straight direction, and to shoulder up the ridge, than with a plough broader at bottom, and bluff at the mouldboard, thereby rendered steady in its progress, although not so proper for strong stoney lands. Double mouldboards are used for drills and green crops, but the wheel plough is do not prevail in any part of Ayrshire. Several attempts have been made to introduce cast metal ploughs; but they appear much heavier, and in no respect superior to those of wood well shod with iron in the ordinary mode.

[NOTE.—A two horse plough, of Mr Small's construction, with an iron head, costs two guineas; with a wooden head, 30s; cast metal ploughs, 40s.]

DRAINING

There is another point of equal consequence in this county to which as yet no adequate attention has been shown. The tenacious nature of the soil in many places, and the moisture of the climate, expose it to constant inconveniences from wetness. The extent of the evil has hitherto almost entirely precluded the application of a remedy. Covered stone drains

are so expensive, and in general so ineffectual, that they have justly fallen into disrepute. To drain an acre of ground with stones and covered drains will cost from £3 to £5 per acre; and after all, the slightest accident or impediment in any of the drains will render them entirely useless.

Drains filled with brush-wood are extremely eligible for soft boggy lands, where there is a sufficient declivity communicating with a main drain to carry off the various streamlets from the drains. They do not cost more than 40s or 50s per acre, in the neighbourhood of brushwood; but they seldom last beyond 14 or 15 years. And if the mouths of the drains are ever suffered to choak, they cease to be of service.

There is another kind of covered drains, less expensive, and in certain soils more efficacious than the former. First, a thick sod is cut and laid aside, then a trench is made gently shelving, and deep enough to be beyond the reach of any plough. A narrower spade is then used to cast a smaller trench at bottom, leaving a shoulder or epaulement of several inches on each side. The earth is then carefully removed, and the top sod is turned with the sward downwards, pressing on the epaulement, and leaving the narrow space below it empty for the water. The earth scooped from the bottom is then thrown upon the inverted sod, and the whole is levelled with the surface. Neat as this mode may be for dressing pleasure grounds and parks, it is found inadequate to the great purposes of draining on an extensive scale. In a county such as Ayrshire, this can only be effected by properly ridging and furrowing the land; opening with a spade or plough a proper water furrow, wherever it is necessary; and in wet or spouty soils using open cuts or kettle-bottom drains, about 5 feet wide at top, gently shelving, so as to leave the sides green, and no deeper than is requisite to make the water flow. These kettle-bottom drains may be made from 4d to 6d per fall of six yards, and ought to be cleaned once or twice a year. They have been successfully practised by Sir Blair of Blair in very wet parts of his estate.

DITCHES AND FENCES.

The only kind of drain that hitherto has been generally established, arises collaterally from the large deep ditches and fences which overrun Ayrshire. When the system of enclosing was introduced, every one conceived that the deeper and wider he made his ditch, and the higher he constructed his mound, the more secure and efficient was his fence. In this course of reasoning, it was forgotten that the mound acted as a barrier against the water on one side, and the ditch as a canal or dam upon the other, whenever there was not a proper level or outlet for the water. The width is usually 5 or 6 feet, and the depth three feet. The thorns are planted on a level with the surface, and usually with a scarcement or projection of 5 or 6 inches; on this the thorns rest, and it serves as an under stratum to them when cleaned, or when earth is thrown up to cover them. A fence, of this sort, costs at the rate of 10d or 1s per fall or perch of 6 yards in length. On the top of it, is placed a pallisadoe of brushwood, costing according to situation, from 2d to 4d per fall.

In Summer, this ditch or canal is dry, and so wide that the cattle can descend into the bottom, and destroy the thorns growing above the projecting earth or scarcement. In Winter, the quicks are usually drowned with the stagnated water in the ditch, and although the Ayrshire soil is generally favourable to these plants, so little attention is paid to them, that one may ride for many miles without seeing a hedge and ditch either properly constructed at bottom, cleaned above, cocked and pallisadoed at top, or twitched up like a penthouse, which is the only mode of preserving the fence, thick and vigorous from top to bottom.

Quicks are raised from hips and haws; and after standing in the seed-bed, they are transplanted; and at three years old, are usually sold by the nursery-man at 10s per thousand.

[NOTE.—34 quicks are sufficient to plant a fall of 6 yards.]

Considering the enormous sums expended on enclosures in Ayrshire, during the last 40 years, it is wonderful how few are either properly constructed, or afterwards preserved in condition, to perform the three effects required of them:—The draining of the ground; the confining and separating of the stock; and affording warmth and shelter to the country. This last object is so material, that an author of great eminence, on political economy, expressly states the signal benefits derived in Italy, from the warmth and shelter of planting and enclosures. If this remark applies with justice to the mild latitudes of Lombardy and Naples; how much more forcibly must it attach to the bleak regions of the north?

[NOTE.—Fi'angieri.—Scienza della Legiflazione.]

The best mode of attaining these objects is, to construct a mound or embankment, about 3 or 4 feet wide at bottom, and from 2 or 3 feet high, faced up with sod, in order that it may be preserved in constant verdure; with a quickset

hedge and row of trees upon the top, defended by paling or brushwood while the fence is young, and having a small shelving drain on each side of the embankment. The earth being all taken from the surface, and well pulverized, gives much more luxuriant vegetation to the quicks and trees, than can be expected when they are plunged into the side of a cold hard mound, often drenched with water, and placed in an unnatural horizontal posture. It is, however, to be observed, that these fences are by no means proper in very sandy ground, where the drought would kill the plants.

[NOTE.—In that case, furze, planted on a high mound or turf dyke, will be found an eligible substitute.]

A mound and fence of this description, including thorns at 10s per thousand, and a sufficient quantity of oak, ash, elm, beach, and larch, at the rate of one tree per fall, and one Huntington willow per fall,—may be made for little more than an ordinary enclosure. It is particularly beautiful and convenient on the sides of the high roads, affording a perfect fence and some shelter; preserving them dry without recurring to the pernicious custom of deep ditches fronting the road, which endanger the neck of the traveller throughout every part of Ayrshire.

[NOTE.—The beech is above all recommended, and it agrees so well with the thorn, that it may be mingled with it in the hedge.]

ROADS.

With respect to roads, few counties, on the whole, are so well accommodated. In all directions, where land or water gravel can be procured, the roads are formed of these materials. The turnpike roads are made and repaired by the produce of the tolls, and cross roads by the statute labour of the different parishes. The usual breadth is conformably to statutory regulations; being never less than 24 feet wide for by-roads, and 34 feet wide for turnpike roads. The materials are usually a foot deep at the sides, and 15 inches in the centre. When the turnpike roads first began in this county, the rate of making them, by job-work, rose from 10s to 14s per fall. Now, they are contracted for at 5s to 6s per fall, unless where the materials are at a great distance.

In places where gravel cannot be procured, the road is formed with pounded stones; but as they are seldom properly covered with earth, nothing can be more uneasy than the travelling on these sharp and rugged communications; especially in this county, where there are neither broad wheels nor heavy waggons to reduce these refractory materials. The ingenious Mr Bakewell thinks that roads, instead of rising in the centre, and shelving outwards, should be made like the streets of Naples, high at the sides, and tending to a kennel or gutter in the middle.

After all, there is little doubt but the best system of road-making is that practised by the Romans in the Appian and Flaminian ways, and afterwards much improved, and rendered general in France under Sully and Colbert. The system established by these great ministers consisted of a broad pavement in the middle, on which carts and carriages can always draw a greater load than on the gravelly paths on each side, which served for travellers in dry weather.

AMOUNT OF WEIGHT DRAWN—CARTS AND OTHER CONVEYANCES.

The fact is, that in the neighbourhood of Glasgow, where the roads are neither smooth nor flat, but where they are either paved, or composed of very hard materials, from 20 to 30 cwt. is drawn upon a cart with one horse; whereas, on the flat gravel roads around London, the most powerful teams of four horses hardly ever draw more than 40 cwt., equal to 1000 wt. or half a ton a horse.

In Ayrshire the practice of working with waggons, teams, or drays, has never been established. Even the yoking of two horses in one cart is disapproved of; on this principle, that a single horse in a cart avoids the strains and jerks which so frequent distress the willing ones, while the others save themselves. Besides, the mode requires much less skill and attention in the driver, who can easily take charge of two horses, and two carts.

The wheels of these carts are usually from 48 to 54 inches in diameter. The axles are made of iron, although many carters now prefer wooden axles, as being lighter, and shaking the horses less. On the same wheels, occasionally can be placed bodies of long carts for the conveyance of hay and straw. The weights drawn in this county are usually no more than from 10 to 12 cwt. Although the carriers who travel from Ayr to Edinburgh seldom take less than a ton on every single horse cart; and the very superior practice, in the neighbourhood of Glasgow, already mentioned, sufficiently proves what may be effected. Great, however, is the amendment of the county in this respect.—About 40 years ago, the late Lord Cathcart being extremely desirous of improving his estates, ordered a number of carts to be made, and given gratis to his tenants. But they were at that

time so little accustomed to these machines, and the roads were so bad, that very few accepted of his Lordship's present.

[NOTE.—A pair of such wheels, made of well seasoned ash, will cost for wood 24s, 12 stone of iron 50s, the body L. 1. Or for a complete mounted single horse cart, L. 5. The wheels of carts, round London and in many level parts of France, are seldom less than six feet in diameter. By these means, the centre of the axle is three feet from the ground, and the cart placed on that axle is necessarily raised nearly a foot higher. The objections to these very high wheels are, their weight and severity of pressure going down hill.]

WEIGHING MACHINES.

In order to enforce the most useful improvements in the article of conveyance, and to specify the weights that horses draw, every farmer ought to have a machine capable of weighing two tons, with a platform on which the cart runs; and is weighed in the most expeditious manner.—These machines are made by Mr Hutchison at Dalkeith, on an ingenious construction. They are so poised, by counteracting levers under the platform, as to weigh horses, cattle, sheep, &c. with great precision, and without being injured by the movement of the animal. Few inventions are so useful to those who buy and sell live stock; as it enables them to avoid all impositions and altercations with graziers or other dealers, and to know, with very great precision, the value and real condition of the animals they purchase.

[NOTE.—A complete machine of this sort, capable of weighing two tons, costs about L. 20.]

PLANTING.

In addition to the circumstances above specified, there is no operation which tends more to the beauty, comfort, and improvement of the country than planting. In this particular the landholders of Ayrshire have not been inattentive. Two centuries ago there were very considerable forests in this county. At the time of the Reformation, a forest extended from the vicinity of Ayr to Barnwell, or the Kirk of the Forest, as it was called, ten miles eastward. This, and every other of any extent in the county, excepting Dalrymple wood on the river Doon, belonging to the Earl of Cassilis, has been long since destroyed. Insomuch that, 50 years ago, there hardly remained any timber or plantation in the county, excepting the natural woods of oak and birch on the banks of the rivers Stinchar, Girvan, Doon, and Ayr, and clumps of ash and sycamore surrounding almost every farmhouse in the northern division called Cunningham, and many of those in the central and southern districts, Coil and Carrick.

It is to be hoped that a similar misfortune to the country will not again occur, as Mr Forsyth's discovery and application of a plaister for preserving and restoring trees enables every one to obtain new stems and a most vigorous vegetation from any root that is not totally decayed. At present the seat of every gentleman in the county is surrounded with a greater or smaller quantity of planting, proportioned to his inclinations, taste, and means.

[NOTE.—See Mr Forsyth's pamphlet on this subject.]

Those who wish to beautify or shelter a country rendered so bleak by the misconduct of their progenitors found it requisite to plant clumps of one or more acres, and belts of different dimensions from 20 to 300 feet.

In many places hedge-rows have been introduced, and succeed extremely well. But, in a bleak and hyberborean climate, they must be very frequent, and under the cover of well advanced plantations, before they can yield any solid benefit to the country. Whenever they shall become an established part of the general system, besides affording shelter to the fields, they will in 40 years render an estate worth double the value of the soil, by the timber growing on it, without including the great convenience and absolute necessity of stakes, pailing, and brushwood, afforded from the coppices and younger growth of the plantations.

In order to effect so desirable a purpose, the best mode practised in this county is to sow, on a well-prepared piece of garden ground, the seed of ash, elm, and sycamore, beechmast, acorns, and cones of larches, pines and fir, according to the quantity of ground intended to be planted. The ordinary proportions requisite to plant an acre are about 2000 deciduous trees, 1,500 larches, and 1,500 Scotch firs. Round the boundary should be planted cuttings of Huntington willow, which in four years gives the shelter and appearance of an advanced plantation; and, in the end, yields a wood of great size, extremely light and tough, and almost as useful for country purposes as the ash. If the ground be hard and moist, it is best to turn it previously with the plough, and then to plant the trees at 3 or 4 years old in the months of February and March. But on dry sandy soils, the Scotch firs and larches should be planted in November or December from the seed-bed at 2 years old. Acorns sown or dibbled, thrive ex-

tremely well, unless when rabbits, mice, or hares destroy them.

Contractors in this county will engage to plant 5000 trees per acre at specified ages, and to supply all deficiencies for 7 years at L. 3 or L. 4, according to the soil and situation; the proprietor enclosing the ground, and affording some land for nursery. But as most proprietors can do the same much cheaper by their own people, there are few examples of such contracts having been made, to any extent, in the county.

It is unfortunate, that, in the early tendency to planting, the landholder should have given so decided a preference to the bleak and dismal Scotch fir. At its prime it never can be used with safety for rafters, beams, joists, or other durable operations in building; insomuch, that the people of this county rather choose to pay 16d to 18d per square foot for Norway timber, than use the fir grown in Scotland of equal size at 1s per foot.

Large oak, ash, and elm sell for 1s 6d per square foot, beech and sycamore at 1s. Oak bark from L. 6 to L. 10 per ton.

With respect to larch, there is not yet a sufficiency of it in the market to ascertain its price, but it is admitted to be worth 3d or 4d per foot more than Scotch fir, grows faster, and is far more beautiful.

The grey willow, although it has the advantage of growing fast and affording early shelter, is so inferior to the Huntington as to render the latter very generally preferred. Several improvers in this county have found great benefit from plantations of hoop and basket willows. The cuttings are planted in the month of March, in rows 3 feet asunder, and the plants 18 inches distant in the rows, on rich meadow land, previously trenched, and ridged up with drains to carry off superfluous water. In three years the shoots are ready for the market, and frequently sell for L. 24 per acre, yielding a rent of L. 8 annually, from whence is to be deducted the expense of trenching, planting, and attendance, probably not exceeding L. 3 per acre.

An excellent kind of reed grows around the lakes and bogs in some parts of this county, and it is to be regretted that the cultivation of this useful plant has not been more encouraged. It affords the best of all thatch, capable of lasting without repair for twenty or thirty years, thereby preventing the consumption of straw, which requires to be almost annually replaced; and, instead of augmenting fodder for the straw yard, is thus wasted in thatching cottages, and purposes not so necessary, or for which other materials are to be preferred.

SOILS AND MANURES.

We come now to the most important point connected with the management of land, the consideration of those qualities which occasion sterility or vegetation, and the applying of such manures as tend to diminish the one, and to promote the other. Without entering into a long technical analysis of the component particles which constitute soil, or the chemical processes through which nature calls forth the principles of vegetation, by the mingling and fermenting of various salts, acids, alkalies, and other substances; we may, in general, state the basis of workable soils to consist either of argillaceous matter, or clay properly so called; or else of flinty earths, quartz, and silicious particles which form the component parts of gravel and sand.

[NOTE.—Dr Black ranges earthy substances under 5 classes—1st, absorbent, or alkaline earths; 2d, clays; 3d, flinty substances; 4th, fusible earths; 5th, tales or flexible earth.]

The various kinds of loams, mouldy, mosses, and virgin earths, are formed by the addition of animal or vegetable bodies, such as dung, carrion, decayed wood, leaves, plants, peat, fixed and common air, sediment of water, and other substances conducive to the purposes of vegetation. Alkaline earths, or calcareous matter, acting on the mineral or vegetable acids, produce a great increase of fertility. On the other hand, the intermixture of ores, ochres, copper, iron, and other metallic particles, or the waters impregnated with them, tend extremely to diminish the fertility of any soil, and in many instances prove completely fatal to the growth of plants. The famous copper mine of Angelsea, the waters of which destroy all vegetation, may be cited as an example.

[NOTE.—The ancient writers on husbandry mention many nostrums for determining the quality of soil. A fat black earth is recommended by Virgil as the best for corn:—

"Nigra fere, et presso, pinguis sub vomere terra,
"Et cui putre solum (namque hoc imitamur arando),
"Optima frumentis." VIR. Geo. II.

In another place the same author recommends a glutinous soil. A salt or bitter taste was admitted as a testimony of barrenness:—

"Salsa autem tellus, et quæ perhibetur amara,
"Frugibus infelix." VIR. Geo. II.

Columella says: "Pingue fit; per se tamen id parum est, si dulcedine caret." Col. lib. II, cap. II. Pliny states that the best soil is

knows by its smell:—"Illa erit optima quæ unguenta sapiat." PLIN. Nat. Hist. lib. 17 cap. 5. Although the ancients were ignorant of chemical analysis, yet their opinions on these points deserve the attention of every farmer, and are accurately discussed by the Rev. Mr Dickson in his work on the Husbandry of the Ancients.]

It is well known to chemical observers that not only the muriatic, nitrous, and vitriolic acids are contained in many soils and strata, but likewise the sorelline and other vegetable acids.

[NOTE.—Clay and vitriolic acids form alum. Calcareous earth and vitriolic acid form selenite. The purest clay or argillaceous earth is obtained by adding to a solution of alum, a proportion of magnesia. This decomposes the earth of alum, which is precipitated in the purest form.]

These acids, and many other salts, remain either neutralised or combined in such forms as are ready to be called forth by the application of heat and mixture producing combinations which refer to, and are explained by, the table of elective attractions. Not only the single, but also the double elective attractions operate with great force in the processes of nature in regard to soil, manures, and vegetation.

[NOTE.—Single elective attraction means, the disuniting of one body from another by the adjunction of a third. Double elective attraction implies that when two substances, which have an affinity together, are mixed with two others, these two shall be decomposed, and each shall form a combination with one of the two substances added.]

In many parts of America, where the soil is composed not of sand simply, nor argilla simply, but of these mingled with rich animal and vegetable substances, full of animal salts and vegetable acids, forming deep moulds and loams, the application of gypsum, or Paris plaister, in the small proportion of a few bushels to an acre, seldom fails to call forth the productive powers of the land, and to ensure abundant crops. But if the same quantity of gypsum be spread on mere sand, quartz, till, or clay, unmingled with any animal or vegetable substance, its operation will be of no avail.

[NOTE.—The basis of gypsum is calcareous earth. It is a stoney concretion extremely soft, and does not effervesce with acids. But when reduced into powder, and boiled for some time in a solution of common fixed alkali, it changes into a vitriolated tartar.]

In like manner, when sal-glauber, which is a neutral salt, produced by the mixture of the vitriolic acid with the fossil alkali, is spread on soil, whose component parts contain particles, brought into action with that preparation, on the principle of chymical attraction, great fertility is the never failing consequence.

Unfortunately, this analyzing mode of operation is repugnant to the habits of practical farmers, and it is only by the application of scientific men, and the attention of such a board as that which I have the honour of addressing, that the necessary investigations can be specified or promulgated. In default of such assistance, under the apprehension, too, of being charged with theoretical deviations from the plain matter in discussion, and in expectation that ere long, by the exertions of so respectable an institution, the public mind will be more fully matured for the reception of chymical deductions applied to agricultural purposes, I shall, in the meanwhile, confine myself to those ordinary modes of fertilizing admitted into common practice. The spreading of sand on clay, clay on sand, earth on peat, or peat on earth, every farmer understands to be an improvement of the soil. But, in this county, with every variety of soil and opportunity for these processes, there are few instances of such ameliorations to any extent.

PARING AND BURNING.

The paring and burning of moors and mosses formerly took place to a considerable degree. It tended to produce two good crops, or three; but was extremely pernicious, unless where the soil was very deep, or where the object was to consume the soil, until you reached a better under stratum.

FLOODING AND WATERING OF GROUND.

Another custom, very prevalent in this county, was, by means of sluices, dams, or other contrivances, to throw bogs and lower grounds under water during the winter months. By these means, the land was greatly enriched with the productive vegetable earth from the surface of the higher parts. The waters were let off in spring, and the ground was then ploughed and sown. But in consequence of the great humidity and usual deepness of the soil, the crops were very late, the produce was precarious, depending on the dryness of the season, as a wet summer commonly lodged and spoiled the corn on such lands. Whenever these grounds have been perfectly freed from wetness, springs and surface water, they have proved themselves the best of all soils. But the least inattention to these particulars, to the

proper ridging of the land, opening of drains, and water furrows, exposed them to numerous disadvantages.

The plan of watering fields by little drains, and dams of a few inches wide, in this mode using stagnant water as a manure, so successfully practised in other countries, and in England by Mr Bakewell at Dishley, &c., has never as far as I know of been attempted in Ayrshire. Indeed, at first, some portion of the ludicrous would probably attach to an improver who, in a county such as ours, should in this manner attempt to water fields, before he had thought of draining them. Far be it from me, however, to doubt, but this is one of the most efficacious manures, which, under proper modes and circumstances, can possibly be applied to land. In order to give it full effect, nothing more is requisite than to secure a small streamlet, and to conduct it along the highest part of a field, from that feeder forming furrows with the plough, at moderate distances, then throwing in small dams of turf at proper intervals, so as to flood every part of the field for the period necessary to enrich it.

[NOTE.—In India and other tropical climates, machines are constructed for conveying water to every well cultivated field.]

MARLES.

In Carrick or the southern district of the county, shell, clay, and stone marle are found in many places, and applied with advantage. One estate in Carrick of 900 or 1000 acres, which about 40 years ago was sold for little more than L. 2000, and let for about L. 100 a year, has been so much improved by marle, as now to let for L. 600 or L. 700 a year.

Shell marle, containing a larger proportion of calcareous earth, is the strongest and most speedy in its operation. About 100 cart loads of it, on an acre of earthy or clay land, yields large crops, and continues its operation on the soil for many years. The clay marle containing a smaller quantity of calcareous matter, mixed with a larger portion of argillaceous substance, is more applicable to light soils, and requires to be spread, to the amount of 200 or 300 cart loads per acre. The same observations nearly apply to stone marle. The expense in common cases may amount to L. 2 or L. 3 per acre; and the usual mode is to spread the marle on the sward, and plough it in with the lay crop.

Marle and lime are understood to operate as manures exactly in proportion to the calcareous matter they respectively contain. Many kinds of marle do not contain more than one-twentieth or even one-thirtieth part of their weight of calcareous earth. Half the quantity of lime would be infinitely preferable to such marles.

[NOTE.—In order to ascertain the quantity of calcareous matter in marle, Dr Black recommends to dissolve it in acid, and then precipitate by an alkali. Or as a more simple process, to put 200 grains of the marle in a florence flask, adding a little water, and after saturating with an acid, observing the loss of weight. If it lose 40 grains, there are one hundred grains of calcareous matter in the marle. The loss of weight which it suffers being always about 40 per cent. of the whole, and whatever be the loss of weight, we can by this mode judge of the quantity of calcareous matter contained.]

LIME.

Lime, however, is the staple manure of this county. It has been already stated that 100 bolls, or 400 Winchester bushels of slacked lime are commonly spread upon the sod. And if the ground remains for several years in grass, on land of a good strong staple, whether loam or clay, it will make the difference of 4s or 5s per acre on the pasture; raise an abundance of white clover even in the wildest moor where no such plant had been seen before.

If the ground is ploughed for 3 years, it will yield several quarters of grain per acre more than would have been produced without the lime. On sandy ground it is not the practice to use lime, although it evidently improves the pasture even of that soil, and on such parts of the moors as are previously drained it produces the very best effect. But when thrown upon land in a deluged condition, little benefit can be derived from the application.

On the coast, the limestone is brought as ballast from Lerne, and other places in Ireland. It costs 3s 6d per ton of stones delivered at the harbour. It is sold from the draw-kilns at 6d per boll of slacked lime, equal to half a boll of shells. A ton of limestone will produce 8 or 9 bolls of slacked lime; and, in addition to the price of 6d per boll, it frequently costs as much to lead it, and lay it on the ground: so that farmers expend £5 per hundred bolls of lime, which is the usual quantity spread upon an acre.

[NOTE.—In some parts of Ireland there is an ingenious contrivance for erecting salt pans over a draw-kiln, so as to perform the operations of each, with the same fire.]

Many farmers maintain, that instead of adhering to this expensive practice, of spreading so large a quantity of lime per acre on the sward,

it is better to spread the half upon a fallow. This is daily coming into use, when land is preparing for wheat or barley, to which 40 or 50 cart-loads of dung per acre are added when they can be spared. Failing dung, a compost made of lime and sweepings of drains and ditches is found to produce the most luxuriant crop of grain, and acts as an admirable top-dressing for hay and pasture lands.

It is asserted by some improvers that the burning of the lime, and the caustic quality it thereby acquires, are not requisite to call forth its ameliorating powers, being, as they say, equally efficient when merely pulverized, without burning and spread in powder. Dr Black, indeed, positively maintains that lime is equally applicable in its mild as in its caustic state; that it should remain 12 months on the sward before the ground be ploughed, by which it sinks into the earth, is incorporated with the soil, and corrupts the vegetable matter, so forming a manure.

[NOTE.—See Dr Black's Lectures.]

It is an opinion very prevalent in Ayrshire, that although lime improves the land, and enables it to produce superior crops of grass and corn, yet that, if repeated, it exhausts the soil, and would at last reduce it to a caput mortuum. It is obvious, that if a farmer, whether by lime or any other means, can bring his fields into high condition, either he or his landlord must be culpable indeed, if they be afterwards reduced to barrenness. But, perhaps, the operation of lime being to attract and bring into action the different acids contained in the ground, may leave the soil diminished in its means of reproducing these ingredients; without which, when the operation of liming is repeated, the calcareous matter may remain inactive and without effect.

PEAT OR MOSS.

It is to be regretted that so few endeavours have been made in this county, to render peat or moss productive as a manure. Every chemical person knows that peat or moss contains a proportion of vegetable matter; that the vegetable alkaline salts are obtained from it by burning; and that the application of alkaline matter may be used to call forth the sorelline and other acids which abound in it. The few attempts which have been made in this respect encourage us to persist in more vigorous endeavours, and the extreme plenty and cheapness of the material, render the application of it as a manure one of the greatest desiderata in Scottish husbandry.

COMMON SALT.

The learned and ingenious Bishop of Landaff states that common sea salt, as a manure, in small quantities, tends to fertilize, whereas, in large proportions, it effectually destroys vegetation. Perhaps in this latter mode of application it might be useful to destroy the roots of quickens, rushes, and other pernicious weeds which infect this county.

SOAPERS WASTE.

Soapers waste, which is the earthy part of kelp and barilla, mixed with the lime which manufacturers use to bring it to the caustic state, and from which the alkaline and other salts have been separated by solution, proves a valuable manure, and is in great request among many Ayrshire farmers, as well as horn shavings, for the purpose of spreading upon grass.

SEA-WEED.

Sea-weed is much used upon the coast. It is sometimes carried immediately from the water and ploughed in for barley or other crops, but is more frequently allowed to rot, and in that state is spread at the rate of 70 or 80 single horse carts per acre. It does not, however, seem to continue its effects above two succeeding crops, especially in sandy soils, although in clay lands it is more durable. When used for turnip, it is apt to burn and destroy the seed, insomuch that, unless carefully managed, it will often occasion a failure of the crop, on the same field where the part manured with dung proves luxuriant. It is likewise observed to give an unpleasant taste to potatoes and some other vegetables.

DUNG.

With respect to dung, any observations on its value or mode of action would be superfluous. It only remains to express regret that so little pains are taken in this county to increase its quantity, and preserve it in a proper state. Instead of forming layers of alternate mould and dung, and turning it at proper intervals, the lower and more ignorant class of farmers still continue the barbarous practice of throwing it out from the stable or cow-house on a declivity, where its juices are exhausted or run off with the rain which drenches it. The benefits arising from feeding all the live stock in stables, sheds, or straw-yards, as practised in the Netherlands, are, however, so well understood, at least in theory, throughout this county that they cannot fail ere long to be very generally established.

The ploughing in of vetches, tares, lupines, or other pulse, when green, is also recommended as an excellent manure by the best rustic

writers, but if allowed to form the seed, they have at all times been held pernicious.

STOCK.

So much respecting the nature and management of land in Ayrshire. The next object is to consider the kinds and properties of those animals which are maintained on its productions.

The prejudices long entertained in this country against the use of pork or bacon, prevented the inhabitants from paying due attention to the breed of swine. But the merits of this useful animal are now recognised, and its flesh rises in estimation among all classes of the people. Although many farmers keep a few for their own use, yet they are seldom raised or fed in any considerable numbers, unless at gentlemen's houses (where the small, round, black, Chinese kind, are generally preferred), or at distilleries, where the superior size and weight of the large, white, Shropshire hogs render them more eligible for the market.

The ass has also fallen under the displeasure of the Ayrshire people, so that there is hardly a quadruped of this description to be seen.

MULES.

An attempt was made some years ago by the late Mr Oswald to introduce mules. With this view, he procured, at great expense, remarkable fine jack-asses from Spain, and bred a number of excellent, well-sized mules at his seat of Auchincruive.

Some of these were sold in the county, but notwithstanding their durability and hardiness, there is scarcely one of them now. And the farmers all prefer horses, which for draught and farming work, are, perhaps, superior in this county to any in the kingdom.

HORSES.

The Ayrshire horses are neither flat footed, gummy legged, clumsy animals, like the unwieldy breed which supplies the drays of London, nor are they by any means so slight and flimsy as the working stock of Yorkshire. On the contrary, they are short and active on their legs, hard in the hoofs, large in the arms, very deep and powerful in the counter, straight in the back, square in the body, and broad across the fillets. Their predominant defects are, a shortness and coarseness of the forehand, and a deficiency of that elegance of form and action, which only belong to particular descriptions of high-bred, or foreign horses. Formerly, the black and grey colours used to prevail; but of late years a decided preference has been given to the bays and browns, with black tails, legs, and manes. These have been improved by strong chapman stallions, covering from different parts of England.

[NOTE.—Chapman stallions are those which cover at the different fairs and markets, for coach and saddle stock, being neither thorough bred, like racers, nor so coarse as the dray and waggon breed.]

It is generally believed that the valuable, hardy breed of strong work horses, so remarkable in this, and the adjoining county of Lanark, had been chiefly owing to some Flanders or Holstein stallions, brought over last century by one of the Dukes of Hamilton. But it appears from the works of Fordun, Pitscottie, Æneas Sylvius, Froissard, the Epistolæ Regum Scotorum, and other compositions on Scottish affairs, that great pains had been taken, at early periods, under several of the Scottish Kings, particularly during the reigns of King David Bruce, and all the James's, to bring, not only active breeds for the saddle from Hungary, Spain, and Barbary, but also to import strong and useful kinds from Flanders, Germany, and Denmark.

[NOTE.—Any one desirous of knowing the state of stock and agriculture in ancient times, may consult the statute of Alexander II. anno 1214, containing instructions regulating the stocking of farms and husbandry. At that period, all the ploughing was performed by oxen.]

[NOTE.—This may help to account for the value of the prevailing race in question, as the strong black breed of Leicestershire is understood to have originated from an introduction of Flanders horses into that county by a Lord Hastings several centuries ago. Every one acquainted with the history of animals, knows that in five generations any cross breed may be brought to the properties of the original dam or sire, in the same manner as the descendants of a mulatto are brought to be perfectly white or completely black in the course of the same number of gradations. This fact explains the rapidity with which any favourite breed of animals may be introduced into a country.]

Few stallions in Ayrshire cover for more than 10s or 15s, but great attention is paid to movements, colour, strength, and form. The grass is so late in this county that many farmers do not wish their mares to foal till near the end of May, especially as their producing sooner interferes with the barley seed time, and prevents their being used at that busy period. The foal

is allowed to suck 5 or 6 months, during which time the mare is only used at gentle work. Suckers at weaning time sell from L. 7 to L. 12; yearlings and two-year-olds from L. 12 to L. 20. And it is by no means uncommon to pay L. 30 and L. 40 for a work-horse or strong breeding mare. Ordinary farming work, however, is performed by horses worth about £20, and multitudes of low priced, light carcassed horses are annually brought from Ireland to the fairs at Ayr, Irvine, and Kilmarnock.

A few racing stallions of high pedigrees have covered in the county, and produced a breed extremely different from the farming stock I have endeavoured to describe.

[NOTE.—In order as much as possible to improve the breed of horses, already so excellent in the county, it has been my object to procure the strongest Flanders stallion, of a bay colour, and of that sort which bring their legs well under them, and are speedy in their movements. He weighs above 1200 weight, walks fast, and trots at the rate of 13 miles in the hour, being able to draw 2 tons. A proper selection of the best breed of bay Flanders mares would be a valuable acquisition, but they are difficult to be procured. It has also appeared to me no less necessary to introduce the strongest thorough bred stallion that can be found for the purpose of producing, with proper crosses, horses possessing vigour, power, and action, fit for cavalry, or carriage, or for the field.]

It is to be observed that all thorough bred horses are derived from Barbs or Arabs, without any other mixture. These have been introduced and propagated with great expense and care since the days of Charles the II. And as most of the fine stallions in the kingdom are either entirely or in part of this Arab breed, it unavoidably tends to diffuse throughout the general race of horses the properties and defects attached to this description of animals. Now, although the Barbs and Arabs are superior to others for speed and endurance of exertion, yet they have many imperfections which, unless corrected by crossing them with other breeds, render them inapplicable to various important purposes.

[NOTE.—Even those who cover under the denomination of chapman stallions are commonly half or three-quarters bred.]

They are in general unfit for draught, owing to the delicacy of their frame, and their physical deficiency of weight, few thorough bred horses weighing more than 800 lb. They are generally thin in the quarters, small in the limbs, tender in the hoofs, and are apt to go near the ground, which, with their slender forehands, and incapacity of moving with the quick turns, evolutions, and conversions of the Turkish or Hungarian horses, render them neither useful as cavalry, safe for the road, nor elegant in harness.

You will forgive me, Sir, for this digression suggested by the prevailing tendency of reducing all kinds of horses too near the standard of the racer. While, in my apprehension, the public utility would be more successfully promoted by propagating only the most powerful of the Arab race, so as to intermix the valuable qualities of that breed with the weight, hardiness, and modes of action belonging to other kinds, and necessary for the different purposes in which horses are employed.

[NOTE.—The most active and beautiful parade horses in Europe are the Neapolitan. And the horses of Curdistan are in many respects superior to the Arab, being hardier and of a firmer texture in the hoof, lifting their feet higher, less apt to stumble, of great speed, and accustomed to a rocky country. It may, perhaps, be thought fanciful to hint that in the opinion of many nations the flesh of horses is not less salutary and wholesome and equally well tasted as that of oxen. It is eaten by all the race of Tartars and several other tribes of people, and if their example were to be adopted in other countries, the horse would become in every respect an animal more useful, and as economical as the ox.]

NEAT CATTLE.

With respect to neat cattle, the necessity of doing much in little time, in order to take advantage of a favourable interval, to make up for the interruption of labour, occasioned by bad seasons, has led to the total disuse of oxen for the purposes of farming in this county, especially as their feet are seldom found to stand work on hard roads. It is, however, an admitted fact that the cattle of India, Italy, Portugal, and many other parts of the world perform all kinds of labour, and are constantly used both in farming and on the road, without suffering any inconvenience.

[NOTE.—All the artillery in India is drawn by oxen. But they are finer in the limbs, harder in the hoofs, and less heavy in the carcase, than the breed of this kingdom, partaking, in a great measure, of the Beson race described by Buffon and other naturalists.]

So far are the oxen, even of this country, from being slow or awkward in their movements

when properly attended to, that the writer of these sheets trained a pair of them which ploughed without a driver, and tilled about an English acre daily.

In treating of Ayrshire cattle, however, we are only to consider them as used for fattening or for dairies. Throughout the greatest part of Carrick, or the southern district of the county, the Galloway breed prevails. These, by great pains and long attention, have been brought to high perfection, and, in many particulars, are preferable for fattening to any breed in either kingdom. They are generally black or brindled, though some of them are white or dun, and the best breed of them are polled.

[NOTE.—Several gentlemen have now raised the Galloway breed to a much larger size. Beef commonly sells from 3d to 4d per English pound, and tallow one third dearer.]

They are short legged, rough haired, long bodied, deep in the chest, full in the carcase, and round across the hips and sirloin. They commonly weigh from 20 to 40 stone English, are very hardy, easily fed, often produce one fourth of their weight in tallow, and grow fat where the large heavy breed of other counties would be starved.

[NOTE.—In order to prevent the danger arising from horned cattle in studs and straw yards, the best mode is to cut out the budding knob or root of the horn while the calf is very young. This was suggested to me by Mr Robert Burns, whose general talents are no less conspicuous than the poetic powers which have done so much honour to the county where he was born.]

Great droves of them are annually sent to England at three and four years old, and yield from £5 to £10 a head, and their beef is universally admitted to be excellent.

They are supposed to be as ill adapted as the Lancashire and Leicestershire breed for the purposes of milk; insomuch, that there is hardly a dairy in the parts of the country where they predominate. But many circumstances lead me to conclude that this deficiency arises from inattention to milk as an object, any farther than what is necessary to maintain the calf. For, among this breed, many cows are found which yield great quantities of milk, and from which, in dairy countries, would be propagated kinds, possessing that quality. Whereas, in breeding countries, a cow is only valued in proportion as she appears adapted to the purposes of fattening.

[NOTE.—The sale of these cattle has, for many years, been of great extent; and a gentleman of this county, by continuing long to purchase large numbers for the English market, acquired a landed property worth from £5000 to £6000 a year.]

In Cunningham, or the northern division of the county, a breed of cattle has for more than a century been established, remarkable for the quantity and quality of their milk in proportion to their size. They have long been denominated the Dunlop breed, from the ancient family of that name, or the parish where the breed was first brought to perfection, and where there still continues a greater attention to milk cows and dairies than in any other part of Scotland.

The cattle in this district appear originally to have been of the old Scotch low country kind. Formerly black or brown, with white or flecked faces, and white streaks along their backs, were prevailing colours. But within these twenty years brown and white mottled cattle are so generally preferred as to bring a larger price than others of equal size and shape, if differently marked. It appears, however, that this mottled breed is of different origin from the former stock, and the rapidity with which they have been diffused over a great extent of country, to the almost entire exclusion of the preceding race, is a singular circumstance in the history of breeding. Indeed, it is asserted by a gentleman of great skill and long experience (Mr Bruce Campbell) that this breed was introduced into Ayrshire by the present Earl of Marchmont, and afterwards reared at the seat of the Earl of Glasgow, from whence they are said to have spread over all the county.

This breed is short in the leg, finely shaped in the head and neck, with small horns, not wide, but tapering to the point. They are neither so thin coated as the Dutch, nor so thick and rough hided as the Lancashire cattle. They are deep in the body, but not so long nor so full and ample in the carcase and hind quarters as some other kinds. They usually weigh from 20 to 40 English stone, and sell from £7 to £12 according to their size, shape, and qualities. It is not uncommon for these small cows to give from 24 to 34 English quarts of milk daily during the summer months, while some of them will give as far as 40 quarts, and yield 8 or 9 English pounds of butter weekly. The breed is now so generally diffused over Cunningham and Coil that very few of the other sorts are reared

on any well regulated farm. The farmers reckon that a cow yielding 20 quarts of milk per day during the summer season will produce cheese and butter worth about £6 per annum.

CHEESE.

The sweetmilk cheese, as it is called, which is the kind generally manufactured in these parts of Ayrshire, is made by curdling each day's milk of the dairy separately. After the curd is mixed with salt, and broken with the hand, or cut in shreds, it is pressed extremely hard in a frame, under a stone, moving with a double screw, and often weighing half a ton. The cloth is frequently changed, and in a few days the cheese is taken out of the frame and laid up to dry. It is of a mild and pleasant taste, and sells at an average from 2½d to 4d per English pound, while butter sells from 6d to 7d for the same weight.

It is remarked that the best of these milch cows are good feeders, and easily fattened, although their shapes in several points are different from those approved by connoisseurs. It appears, indeed, that the qualities of yielding large quantities of rich milk, and of fattening with facility, on a moderate portion of food, are by no means incompatible. And that the reason of those desiderata being seldom united in the same animal, arises rather from the different views with which stock is bred, and the inattention of farmers to the double objects in question, than to any great difficulty in correcting the shape of the best milch cattle, and rendering them equal in form and aptitude of fattening to the most approved breeding stock.

[NOTE.—Under this impression I have collected some of the favourite kinds of Darlington or Teeswater and Yorkshire, meaning to cross them with the Ayrshire stock, in order to unite the properties already mentioned.]

It is to be observed that several gentlemen in the county, as well as myself, endeavoured, some years ago, to introduce the best breed of the wide horned Craven, Lancashire and Leicestershire cattle. Many of the calves were dispersed among the farmers both in Coil and Cunninghame. But so great is the prejudice against them, that though they were admitted to be very handsome, not one is now remaining in the county.

In former times a proportion of Dutch or Holderness cattle had been propagated, and when well fed, yielded large quantities of milk. But they were thin haired, lank in the quarters, and delicate in the constitution, which rendered them unfit for a soil and climate such as Ayrshire. They were, besides, extremely difficult to fatten, yielded little tallow; and from the spareness of their shapes, incapable of carrying much flesh upon the proper places.

Alderneys and Guernseys have also been occasionally introduced, in order to give a richness and colour to the milk and butter; which they do in a degree superior to any other animal of the cow species.

Graziers are sometimes tempted by the comparative lowness of price to purchase Irish cattle, which are large, wide horned, and raw boned. But they are so difficult to fatten, that they commonly fell £2 or £3 a-head cheaper than Ayrshire cattle, of the same size and weight.

Other farmers stock their pasture lands with a small breed of Highland cattle, which, at 2 or 3 years old, may be bought from 20s to £3 a-head. These having been bred on hills, and barren heaths, improve most rapidly in the low country. And when fed a year or two on rich pasture, are esteemed superior for taste and flavour to any meat that comes to market.

SHEEP.

On the subject of animals, it only remains to offer some observations respecting the kinds of sheep in this county. On the dry lands along the coast, a small white faced race has long existed. The little wool they have is not altogether coarse, but they are loose made, ill shaped, and have no good quality to recommend them. There is, however, a sort on the estate of Mr Kennedy of Dunure, on the coast of Carrick, whose wool is very fine, and who partake of the properties of the Mochrum or coast-breed of Galloway.

The established Aborigines are bred in great numbers on the moors. They are reckoned by some the most hardy, active, and restless animals of the sheep tribe.

[NOTE.—Others assert that what is called the long or Cheviot breed, from the closeness of their fleece, can as well, and, some say, can better, resist the inclemency of the seasons.]

They are round, firm, and well-shaped, black-faced, and black-legged, with large horns. Their wool is open, sharp pointed, and of the coarsest quality, seldom weighs more than 2 or 3lbs. per fleece, and not worth 6d for an English pound. The weathers of this sort are usually bought, at 3 years old, for £10 or £12 per score, and will feed to double that value, weighing about 12 or 15 English pounds per quarter, yielding tallow equal to one fourth of their

weight; and when fed till 5 years old, afford the finest mutton in the kingdom.

[NOTE.—Mutton fell from 3d to 4d per English pound, and tallow one third dearer. The moorland shepherds are extemely diligent and skilful, taking constant notice of their stocks, and attending to the disorders which frequently afflict them. But in the low parts of the county great ignorance and inattention on this subject are united. Numbers of sheep perish under the rot and scab. Farmers often lose their cattle by the moor-ill and murrain, and hundreds of horses die every year by botts, grease, strangles, and inflammation of the intestines. It is strange, indeed, that so little attention should be paid to the diseases of animals in this county; that there should neither be persons skilful in the cure of them, nor books and publications circulated to direct the farmer how to act when such disasters happen to his stock.]

If it were possible, by any intermixture, to give these animals a less restless nature and an ample fleece of finer wool, without impairing the hardiness and other qualities which fit them so peculiarly for their bleak and barren situations, it would prove the greatest benefit that could be conferred on moorland property. The heavy, coarse, and long-wooled lazy breeds of Lincoln, Leicester, and Teeswater, could hardly find subsistence under such exposure; and the fine woolled race of Hereford would probably cease to be distinguished for their carding staple, if drenched in those cold moorland bogs and marshes.

[NOTE.—The Hereford seem in many of their features to mark a descent from the fine woolled Spanish breed, which we know was brought into England at early periods of our history.]

To cross them with the finer and more delicate race of Spain would seem too violent a transition, and the mountain-breeds, in other parts of this kingdom, are in few respects superior to themselves. The Cheviot sheep, indeed, are finer woolled, but their fleeces are by no means equal in value to the Hereford or the Spanish, and they are, in general, of a long shape, rather loose texture, inferior in these important particulars to the breed we are describing.

[NOTE.—In October last, having occasion to attend a sale of several hundred sheep of various kinds and countries, belonging to the British Wool Society, it appeared to me that the handsomest sheep exposed was a moorland ram, bought for 12s.]

The kind of sheep which I brought from Colchis or Trebisonde, some years ago, being from a cold bleak climate, hardy in their nature, and covered with the finest wool of the long combing kind, afforded great expectations of an admirable intermixture, but in this belief I found myself mistaken.

It is extremely probable that animals, like plants, may by degrees be reconciled to climates the most distant from their natural positions. And, as cherries were brought from Pontus, and peaches from Persia, first to Italy, and afterwards, by slow gradations, to France and England, so the finest sheep of Spain, and the silken-fleeced breed of Angora or Ancyra, may in time assimilate with the coldest moors of Ayrshire.

But, for the present, confining our suggestions to such experiments as are within the reach of ordinary farmers, it appears that the hardiest and most active breed of sheep producing a valuable coat of wool, whether of the carding or the combing staple, would be the most eligible means of adding to the value of the present moorland race.

With all their disadvantages, it is still a question whether the most chosen kinds of Leicester, Lincoln, Teeswater, or Northumberland, on a specified surface, will produce an equal profit.

It is taken for granted that the principles established on this subject by the ingenious Mr Bakewell are correct, and that a sheep whose bones are small, whose stomach is less capacious, in proportion to his size, and who from habit, disposition, or constitution has an aptitude to fatten on a more moderate proportion of food, is more valuable than one of opposite tendencies. It still remains to be considered whether a moorland black-faced wether, weighing 15lbs. per quarter, besides a quantity of tallow equal to one fourth of his whole weight, and worth 10s, of whom 5 or 6 may be fattened to double that value on an acre of land worth 20s, is not a more profitable bargain than the best Leicester wether at the ordinary price of 30s. Such a sheep commonly weighs about 30lbs. a quarter, produces a coarse fleece, little tallow, and bad mutton. He is accustomed to feed at the rate of 3 or 4 upon an acre of land, let at 50s or £3. He is unable and unwilling to seek his food at any distance, and is pampered from lambing-time with hay, oats, and pounded oil-cakes, placed in moveable racks and mangers, under sheds and penthouses for his accommodation.

After all, he does not yield more than 40s or at the utmost 50s in his fattest state. It is also asserted that this breed is subject to the rot and other disorders, which render them unfit to be kept to a proper age on the strong, wet pastures of Ayrshire—the practice in England being to kill about 2 years old all those that are not meant for breeding stock.

Notwithstanding these remarks, it has always appeared to me an eligible object of experiment to introduce the best breeds of those counties. Various gentlemen in former times had procured a very large race of long-legged sheep from Teeswater and other parts. These, though ill-shaped, and requiring great attention, yielded from 12 to 24 English pounds of wool per fleece, the maximum of which is probably as great a quantity as is produced at present on any sheep in England. This race blending with the common classes of the country, supplied the farmers with the pets or tame sheep which were regularly housed and pastured with the milch cows. But there was no regular stock, or considerable number of them, to be found in any part of Ayrshire.

[NOTE.—The old Teeswater breed is now so crossed with the Leicestershire and other kinds as to have lost its distinctive properties. It used to yield a larger fleece than any sheep in England, probably not even excepting the best breed of Lincolnshire. It seems strange that, in estimating the value of this useful animal, such exclusive attention should, among the breeders, be now bestowed on carcase, to the almost total disregard of wool.]

In the year 1776 several gentlemen of the county procured six score of ewes, and the use of two rams, from Mr Culley in Northumberland, who charged us what seemed an extravagant price, and supplied us with an indifferent stock. The neighbouring gentlemen in general maintained that the introduction of this breed would impair the quality of Ayrshire mutton; the farmers asserted they could not thrive on our wet land and rainy climate; while the manufacturers declared their wool too coarse to be deserving of encouragement.

This breed, however, has increased in favour and in population. They yield in general two lambs from every breeding ewe, weigh about 20 English pounds per quarter, and sell for 25s or 30s at two years old when fat. Yield 8 or 9 lbs. of wool, worth 10d per English lb. And are not only easily maintained on tolerable land, but so quiet as to remain within the slightest fence, and so much esteemed that farmers willingly pay 10s or 12s annually for grazing a breeding ewe of this description. In addition to this kind, I have procured the best breed from Teeswater, and a valuable stock from Mr Bakewell, besides a Spanish ram, together with some Spanish and Hereford ewes from the British Wool Society. In doing this, it is my object to combine, by different crosses, the best properties of shape and carcase with the greatest hardiness and aptitude to fatten, as well as the best fleeces of carding and of combing wool. For undoubtedly it is the duty of landholders not only to promote and to diffuse as much as possible every species of improvement, but to counteract the disgraceful spirit of illiberal monopoly, which has hitherto confined the favourite breeds of useful animals within a narrow range.

MODE OF INTRODUCING IMPROVEMENT.

This diffusive operation, however, can hardly be effected without the unremitting endeavours of a number of individuals in their different districts. These require the aid and intervention of public, and associated bodies of men, granting due encouragement and rewards to those who dedicate their skill and labour to the amelioration of stock, although their object may have been merely personal emolument, undirected by any public principle.

It is obvious that instead of one or two fine stallions, bulls, or rams in a whole country, let out at exorbitant rates, every district, nay, every parish, ought to be supplied with these useful means of reproduction on the most moderate terms. With this object, numerous societies of landholders and farmers ought to be established. They should procure the best publications on subjects of agriculture, offering premiums for the finest stallions, bulls, and rams produced within the parish; advertising annual ploughing matches, granting rewards to the most skilful, and purchasing models or at least designs of useful implements of husbandry on approved principles for the instruction of all persons connected with mechanic trades.

If these endeavours were encouraged and extended by the freeholders at head-courts, and other county meetings, specifying the objects to which improvements ought in different districts to be directed, they could not fail to be productive of permanent advantage to the landed interest, and to the community at large.

These remarks, however, have a more immediate reference to the general means that ought to be adopted for diffusing useful knowledge, and to the institutions necessary for promoting a regulated system of experiment and

improvement connected with the various branches of rural economy. In China it is esteemed the proudest distinction of the Emperor that he is the first cultivator in his own dominions; and it is fortunate for this country that the attention of the Sovereign, and of his Majesty's government, are graciously bestowed upon an object so deserving of the Royal care.

[NOTE.—Don Juan Enrique de Graess, a Spanish author, in his Discursos Mercuriales, improving on the suggestions of Reaumur, has urged the great national advantages that might be derived from establishments formed for the purpose of conducting a connected series of inductions on the kinds, combinations, mixtures, and history of different useful animals. Although no public institution of this description exists in Great Britain, yet an individual (Mr John Hunter), who, unfortunately for science, is now no more, guided by the impulse of a vigorous and enlightened mind, has extended the bounds of knowledge in this respect with a successful energy deserving the sanction and encouragement of a great nation, especially when it is considered that nothing but permanent establishments, and a prolonged course of well directed observations, can give full effect to the object in view. These ideas are in a great measure confirmed by the benefits which have resulted from similar institutions connected with the vegetable kingdom. To the Royal and botanical gardens the public is indebted for much important information. On the President of the Royal Society, Sir Joseph Banks, the best tribute of applause and admiration has been bestowed by all Europe for the superior exertions he has made in this extensive range. From the labours of such men, when directed to objects of cultivation, the most luminous discoveries and useful improvements may rationally be expected. It is well known that the most beneficial introduction of plants and animals from one kingdom to another has arisen from institutions and exertions such as those to which I have alluded. It would be tedious to enumerate all the esculent plants in Great Britain which have been brought from other countries; mulberries and silkworms from the East to the Morea, and afterwards to Italy and France; coffee trees, bread-fruit trees, various kinds of cotton shrubs, and other valuable productions transplanted from one quarter of the globe to another. Neither is it necessary to specify the collections of the Dutch East India Company, in their botanical establishment, at the Cape of Good Hope; those of Mr de Visme, in his celebrated gardens at Lisbon; or the very interesting experiments conducted by Dr Anderson, under the government of Fort St. George, although they probably are as conducive to the objects in question as any others on the globe.]

One fact is certain, that through negligence and inattention we lose the benefit of many productions which might easily be brought to assimilate with our soil and climate.

[NOTE.—As instances, we may venture to suggest the luxuriant grass, or broad-leaved gramen of Madagascar, called Fatak, and the hardy kind of rice which grows on the hills of Cochin-China without any other water than accidental showers.]

It is also proved that a multitude of plants, which the antients cultivated for food and other purposes, have totally disappeared from the regimen of modern nations. Among many others, we may mention ervum, ocymum, and in particular cytisus, which was held in such repute among the Romans for feeding every kind of stock.

[NOTE.—It is surprising that cytisus should have fallen into disuse, for it was not only reckoned the most profitable, but the hardiest of plants, enduring bad soil, heat or cold, frost or snow, without detriment. From Pliny's account, it appears to have been originally brought from the Cyclade islands, and not to have been very common in Italy; but so productive that the value of 2000 sesterise or £64 was frequently raised upon a jugerum, which was little more than half a Scotch acre. It may either, says Pliny, be cast into the ground with barley, or be sown in spring like leeks, or its shoots may be planted out before winter, about a cubit in length, in furrows one foot asunder. ("Plantæ cubitales seruntur scrobe pedali.") It comes to perfection in three years, and begins to be cropped at the vernal equinox, when it ceases to flower, affording green feeding 8 months in the year, and afterwards may be used dry. It is hoary in appearance, and is a shrub, with a narrow trefoil leaf. Columella, after describing its many valuable qualities for producing milk, fattening cattle, healing their complaints, and affording green forage 8 months in the year, adds: 'Preterea, in quolibet agro, quamvis macerrimo, celeriter comprehendit; omnem injuriam sine noxa,

patitur." Col. lib. 5. cap. 12. It seems, however, like the Lote tree, or Lotometra and Nymphea frutex of Egypt, as well as other valuable plants, to be entirely lost in modern practice. The Romans were also in the use of feeding their cattle on mast, acorns, lupines, leaves of oak, ash, elm, beech, and poplar.]

OBSERVATIONS ON LANDLORDS AND TENANTS—LABOURERS—CONSUMERS—MANUFACTURERS—AND INNOVATORS.

We now proceed to the concluding article of this discussion; to the state and condition of those classes affected by the cultivation of the country in the different relations which the natural order of things establishes between proprietors, occupiers, and labourers, with those who consume the produce of the soil.

In these transactions between the landholders and tenants, there is a double and counteracting influence. The relation which they have as proprietor and occupier of the same ground unites them by the strongest ties of interest against the consumer, from whom it is their mutual object to extort the highest price for every article of produce. They are generally not less accordant against those dangerous innovators who, in the wantonness of undeserved prosperity, are apt to spring forth among the mercantile and manufacturing classes—maintaining doctrines subversive of the established orders of society—menacing the country with desperate Agrarian systems, tending to destroy the sacred rights of property and every species of security—and under false pretexts of equal distribution, sounding the tocsin of anarchy and confusion.

It must be confessed, however, that this observation concerning the constitutional sentiments of the farming interest is liable to great exceptions. In the vicinity of some towns, where the notions of manufacturers predominate, the farmers have been so far perverted as to form associations binding themselves under severe penalties never to offer any mark of civility to any person in the character of a gentleman. The consequences are that they become boorish and brutal to every individual of the human species, and savage to the brute creation. These outrageous manners are considerably increased by the harshness and austerity which characterise different sectaries who abound in this county.

Whenever this degrading tendency prevails, it becomes the duty of all persons connected with property in land to form counter associations binding themselves never to grant leases to persons of such a description, and, at all events, till this malady subsides, to grant no leases but from year to year, and to tenants at will.

In all engagements between the landlord and his tenants touching land, their interests to a certain degree are discordant. It is naturally the proprietor's object to gain as much rent, and to lay out as little money on the farm as possible. On the other hand, the tenant has a direct interest in throwing the whole burden of improvement upon the landlord and in giving the smallest possible return.

It is besides the constant object of the landlord to prevent the land from being overcropped, neglected, or exhausted; while, at the end of every lease, the tenant has the strongest temptation to crop the land as much as it can bear. He does this not only for immediate profit, but in order to render the farm less valuable, and consequently to obtain a renewal of his lease on cheaper terms.

This sufficiently refutes an opinion, entertained by some enlightened men, that a principle laid down by Dr Smith that Government ought not to interfere by its regulations and restrictions in the concerns of individuals, applies to the transactions between tenant and proprietors. The landlord who acts on this idea, and neglects to insert judicious covenants in his leases, will find his land exhausted, and his estate impaired; while those who fancy that the skill and information arising from the habits of ordinary farmers, render them either safe to be entrusted with unlimited powers of management or likely to invent new modes of operation, are contradicted by the fact. For, in this country, improvements have in general been established, not by the farmers, who can ill afford such speculations, but, as they ought to be, at the expense and hazard of the landholder.

On this principle, farmers should not only be restrained from over-ploughing and mismanagement, but the course and rotation should be specified; engaging them by covenant to sow grass seeds, to drill beans, to fallow for turnips, vetches, kail, or colewort, rape, and cabbages; to hurdle sheep on light land, to construct straw-yards, feed with oil-cakes, and erect sheds or hovels for their outlying stock; above all, never to have more than one, or at the utmost two succeeding crops of corn on the same field without an intervening green crop or

fallow, and enforcing these regulations by a specified increase of rent in case of non-performance—adding, too, such alterations and amendments as the progressive improvements of the country may from time to time suggest.

PROPORTIONS BETWEEN RENT AND PRODUCE.

In order as much as possible to preserve that cordiality which ought ever to subsist between a landlord and his tenants, there should undoubtedly be some admitted principle on which their agreements are concluded. In this county it is thought that the whole produce of the farm should be divided into three parts. Of these that one third should be appropriated for rent, another for the expense of management, and the remainder for the profit and subsistence of the tenant and his family. Great inequality must unavoidably arise from this proportion. For the tenant occupying only 40 acres will have but the means of bare subsistence, while, on the same calculation, the extensive renter of 500 or 1000 acres, with adequate stock and management, may acquire a fortune.

The example of Ireland, however, where powerful renters or middlemen prevail, does not encourage such a mode of cultivation. On the contrary, if instances may be adduced where improvements have originated with great farmers, it will be still more easy to exhibit cases where whole counties have been depopulated by such a practice.

Perhaps the wisest system which human understanding can devise, after a complete division and appropriation of commons and intermingled rights, will be to let every man rent or purchase according to his means. Thus a distribution of property the most varied, from the petty tenant and the smallest feuholder or copyholder to the most extensive renter and the richest lord, will take place, as is the fact in Ayrshire.

CHARACTER OF FARMERS.

The farmers in this county are a sagacious and observing race of men, and though wisely unwilling to adopt, on light surmises, every plan that projectors may suggest, yet there are few instances of their long refusing to imitate such modes and practices as experience teaches are adapted to the country where they reside.

LABOURERS.

The labouring class of men in this county who gain their livelihood by hedging, ditching, mowing, threshing, reaping, and other country work, are paid from 12d to 14d per day. They usually endeavour to have a small house and garden, which costs them 20, 30, or 40 shillings annually, besides a cow's grass and sufficient ground for their potatoes.

JOB-WORK—RATE OF ARTICLES AND LABOUR.

The habit of working by the job or piece is generally established for every kind of labour. Hedges and ditches are made from 10d to 1s per fall of six yards. Grain is threshed from 10d to 1s per quarter ; corn reaped and shocked for 5 or 6 shillings per acre ; hay mowed for half-a-crown. Farm servants receive £5 wages for the half-year ; and, if not fed in the family, are allowed 2 pecks of oatmeal and sixpence weekly for their maintainence. Women servants, for country work, £4 or £5 yearly.

Mason's work is generally done by contract with the builder. Journeymen masons receive 20d or 2s of daily wages, and carpenters are not less expensive. The price of building a rood of rubble work, two feet thick, and all materials furnished, from 25s to 30s. In consequence of the numerous stone quarries, bricks are little used in the county, and houses are seldom roofed with tile, which are neither so handsome as slate, nor so warm and comfortable as thatch.

[NOTE.—Little attention is bestowed on the art of making bricks. If the clay be not properly prepared, or if it be mixed with calcareous matter, they will certainly crumble and decay. The Romans made their bricks extremely thin, and burned them till they vitrified. Many aqueducts and other public buildings built of such materials remain at this day, in perfect preservation, in different parts of Italy.]

Great quantities of oats and oatmeal are constantly sold to Paisley, Glasgow, and the manufacturing parts of Renfrewshire and Lanarkshire, and the quantities of grain and meal which have been imported into the county from Ireland during the last ten years are expressed in a note at the bottom of this page. The constant object of the landed interest has been to raise and continue the price of grain above its natural level ; at least, to prevent the competition of foreign rivals. For this purpose, applications have been made successfully to Parliament by this and other counties to prevent the importation of grain unless when the prices exceed the rates expressed in the last corn bill.

[NOTE.—Accompts of grain and oatmeal im-

ported into Ayr for 10 years preceding the 10th October, 1793, distinguishing each year.

Periods. From 10th Oct.	to 10th Oct.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.	Oatmeal. Qrs.	Pease. Qrs.	Wheat. Qrs.
1783	1784	20	40	..	10	256½
1784	1785	..	628	990	..	..
1785	1786	..	..	..	..	..
1786	1787	1150	212	..	..	..
1787	1788	..	..	..	..	608
1788	1789	..	..	..	..	433
1789	1790	..	..	..	..	..
1790	1791	284½	81	561	..	842
1791	1792	..	..	..	..	20½
1792	1793	..	..	..	..	..
Totals.		1434½	961	1551	10	2160

Custom-house, Nov., 1793.

Accompts of grain and oatmeal imported into Irvine and Saltcoats for ten years preceding 10th October, 1793.

From 10th Oct.	to 10th Oct.	Oat Meal. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Bear. Qrs.	Wh't. Qrs.
1783	1784	75	1861	..	..	..
1784	1785	1112	5340½	..	.	..
1785	1786	..	818	..	..	..
1786	1787	610	10091	2335	..	..
1787	1788	118	2222	..	..	2374½
1788	1789	..	..	..	..	239½
1789	1790	..	724	..	..	..
1790	1791	27	3838½	637½	..	..
1791	1792	..	2503½	..	..	..
1792	1793	..	..	..	..	..

N.B.—In 1792 48 quarters of wheat were imported; but it was afterwards exported. No other grain has been exported in the above period.

A great quantity of grain has been brought from Galloway of British growth, and some has been brought from Greenock, which was imported in that period.]

QUESTION CONCERNING CIRCULATION OF GRAIN.

Without entering into any disquisition concerning the long agitated questions of limited or unrestrained circulation of grain, we may safely aver that countries have uniformly prospered in proportion to the security and facility with which the means of subsistence have been bought and sold. The removal of all restrictions of this nature, under Henry the IV. during the administration of Sully, first recovered France from the disasters of the league. On the other hand, the restraints imposed on the free sale of corn, under Colbert, tended as much to impoverish that kingdom as all the extravagance of Louis the XIV.

OPENING AND SHUTTING OF THE PORTS.

With respect to Ayrshire, the continual juggling which takes place in striking the fiars, in order to determine whether the ports shall be open or shut, involves the country in a multitude of inconveniences. Frequently, before the price of grain exceeds the rate at which the Legislature admits of importation, merchants foreseeing an approaching rise and scarcity of corn would bring sufficient quantities of corn to satisfy the demand, but find themselves restrained by the apprehension that when their vessels arrive the ports may be shut, and their labour lost. Thus the prices rise, and the poor are distressed. Again, the ports by these means being opened the merchants seize the opportunity, and dreading the quick shutting of the ports bring such a sudden influx of foreign corn as destroys the natural balance of the market, to the annoyance of the farmer. But when free export and import is allowed, these embarrassments do not occur. The exorbitant demands of the landholder and farmer are restrained by the foresight of the merchant, who, in his turn, is checked from overstocking the market by the certain loss which would attend that measure.

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANARIES.

In addition to the unclogged importation of corn, nothing could be more conducive to the accommodation of farmers, and interest of the labouring classes in this county, than the establishment of public granaries or magazines in some central place upon the coast, where corn might be regularly bought and sold at the current prices. The profit to the undertakers would consist in their being able to take advantage of the fall or rise in the markets. The farmer would at all times be sure of converting his produce into cash when requisite without the delay and trouble of milling his corn and driving upon chance to fluctuating markets, while the public would be more regularly supplied, by the precision with which such an establishment would enable corn merchants and others to correct the scarcity in any particular district, by a quick supply adapted to the demand.

But a strong objection to such an undertaking arises from the prejudice entertained in this, and I believe in all other countries, against every species of dealers and traffickers in grain. In all times and countries, under the denomination of mealmongers, forestallers, monopolisers, and other similar terms, have they been the objects of public execration. There is probably no point of political economy more clear to philosophic and enlightened minds than the advantages which the public derive from that useful class of men. Their labours unavoidably tend to prevent the extravagant fluctuations in the price of grain, no less distressful to the tenantry than ruinous to the poor. Yet so deeply rooted is this prejudice among the lower

classes in every community, that it would be unreasonable to suppose the Ayrshire populace exempt from an error which at various times has occasioned dearth and famine in every age and country.

OPERATION OF MANUFACTURES.

The operation which trade and manufactures have had on cultivation in this county is well deserving the attention of our Board. The harbours of Ayr, Irvine, and Saltcoats were too defective to admit of trade sufficient to produce a direct influence on the character of Ayrshire husbandry; and there was no manufacture in the county except of wretched articles for home consumption.

[NOTE.—Those ports have only from 9 to 12 feet water at spring tides.]

[NOTE.—The shoe and carpet manufactures of Kilmarnock only excepted.]

But the powerful energies of Glasgow, Paisley, Greenock, and Port-Glasgow operated an *instouratio magna* in this respect.

[NOTE.—These towns are in the counties immediately adjacent to Ayrshire.]

GLASGOW.

The opulence of Glasgow first arose from its trade in tobacco, sugar, and other goods, the produce of America and the West Indies. These gave rise to a great demand for articles manufactured in this country, with which the cargoes imported from the colonies were chiefly purchased. Thus the foreign trade of Glasgow called forth a multitude of manufactures, which overspread Renfrewshire and part of Ayrshire.

When the separation of America from England put an end to the great profits arising from the tobacco trade, of which about 50,000 hogheads, being one-half of the total quantity exported from Virginia and Maryland, had centered in Greenock and Port-Glasgow, the merchants withdrew from a concern no longer profitable, and the habits of manufacture, formerly established in the country, enabled them to apply their capitals to the various branches of iron, glass, inkle, linen, woollen, gauze, and particularly of cotton, which, in a few years, they had extended to an extraordinary degree.

[NOTE.—These are the harbours of Glasgow, 18 or 20 miles distant from that city.]

PAISLEY—GAUZE MANUFACTORY.

About 40 years ago the town of Paisley was a small weaving place, containing about 4000 inhabitants, chiefly employed in working goods for the Glasgow merchants and the American market. A gentleman of great merit and ingenuity in that place, desirous of introducing the manufacture of gauze from Spitalfields, commissioned a few pounds of silk thread proper for the purpose from London. After various counteractions, to which all new trials or inventions are exposed, he completely established the silk gauze manufactory in that town, where it has flourished with so much success that there are now about 25,000 people in the place. In a similar manner the manufacture of checks and osnaburghs was introduced into Glasgow, about the beginning of this century, by a weaver who had served in Flanders and Germany as a private soldier during King William's wars, and on his return brought home the mode of working those valuable cloths, which he practised with great success till they became a staple article of Glasgow manufacture.

Originally the patterns and designs of all fancy works, modes, and fashions were composed at Paris, and issued out with an absolute authority all over Europe. But the Paisley manufacturers established draughtsmen of their own, by whom their designs were composed, and the patterns, when executed, were sent to London and Paris for approbation. By these means the inventive principle of modes and fashions, at least in respect of gauze, was transferred from Paris to Paisley.

The increasing demand for these articles induced the merchants to extend their business, and silk looms were employed in every village on the northern and eastern parts of Ayrshire.

LINEN MANUFACTORY.

The linen manufactory had always existed so far in this county that every family raised flax sufficient for their own consumption, and the women were all habituated to spin flax upon a small wheel, and to bleach and prepare the yarn so made for weaving.

The linen cloth thus manufactured was in general of an inferior quality, and a spinner could hardly earn more, with great assiduity, than 4d a day. [Supposing her to win 12 cuts, or 1 hasp, per day.] A number of small bleachfields were established throughout the country, but, instead of rivalling the linen manufacture of Perthshire, or in the north of Ireland, it was visibly on the decline in every part of Ayrshire.

[NOTE.—Flax has in all ages been reckoned, as well as oats, a robbing crop. Virgil says :—

"Urit enim, lini, campum seges,
Urit avenæ."

VIR. Geor. lib. 1.

Columella confirms this assertion. In Ayrshire about 7 pecks of flaxseed are usually sown upon a Scotch acre, and when the land is well pulverized, and duly weeded, produces, at an average, 20 stone of 24lb. English weight, worth about 12s per stone, 6d per pound, or £12 per acre—2d per lb. is paid for scutching, 1d for heckling or hatchelling, and when the flax spins into 48 cuts, per lb. it will cost 16d for spinning—1 cut is equal to 5 score threads, or turns of the reel; 2 cuts make one hear; 12 cuts, one hank, hasp, or slip; 4 hanks, or 48 cuts, one spindle. Flax worth 1s per lb. usually spins from 36 to 48 cuts per pound. Tow, or hards, are sold as low as 5d; flax capable of spinning to 7 spindles per lb. is worth 7s. Linen cloth for home consumption, worked in what is called a 1400 reed, costs about 7d per yard for weaving, and is worth 2s and 4d or half a crown per yard. Flax in this country, from some cause or other, seems to be by many degrees less vigorous and luxuriant than that round Brussels, Cambray, and Valenciennes, from whence the fine lace and cambrics are manufactured. It has, however, generally been supposed that the Brussels and Valenciennes laces were made from flax of the smallest stem and most slender texture.]

WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE.

The women, in all the labourers and farmers houses, were likewise in the habit of spinning, on very large wheels, the coarse country wool. They could not gain more by this kind of spinning than 4d per day, and the work is more severe than the spinning of flax; as, in order to twist the woollen thread, they run out the rolls of carded wool to a great distance from the wheel, pacing backwards and forwards 20 or 30 miles in the course of a day's work.

[NOTE.—Wool costs, for washing, teasing, carding, spinning, and grease, 2s and 6d per spindle. When worked into blankets, they are worth 1s per yard, and cost about 2½d for weaving. Home-made woollen cloth, 3quarters wide, for labouring people, about 3s per yard when dressed. Such cloth, dyed blue, costs for weaving, dying, dressing, about 10d per yard. The coarsest part of the wool is made into carpets, worth 3s per yard.]

An attempt, on a small scale, has lately been successful at Maybole, in the centre of Carrick, to card, twist, and rove woollen yarn by machinery on principles similar to those applied in the cotton manufacture. And no place can be better adapted for a business of this description. Indeed, the improvements in machinery of every kind, within these few years, and the application of the inventive faculties of men in this county, have operated on every object connected with manufacture and with agriculture.

Other manufactures have been attempted at Cumnock and some other villages convenient for procuring quantities of moorland wool. But Kilmarnock was the only place where manufactures in the woollen branch were fully established, and there, the business being chiefly confined to carpets, little progress was made in the weaving of cloth.

COTTON MANUFACTURE.

By far the most rapid influence, however, on the condition of this country has been produced by the cotton manufactory. The manufacturers of Glasgow and Paisley entered very largely into this branch, as soon as the invention of Arkwright's machinery was made public. After engaging every eligible situation in their own vicinity, they directed their attentions towards Ayrshire. Cotton mills on a great scale were erected on the borders of the county near Lochenoch, and Castle-Semple, and at Cattrine, near Machlin, in the central part of Coil. Large houses, almost in every village, were filled with spinning-jennies, and moved by horses where water could not be procured. The price of labour rose in every quarter, and the demand for cotton workers was so great that farmers could hardly engage men or women servants to remain at country work.

[NOTE.—A good worker in one of these cotton houses could earn from 2s to 3s daily; women from 1 to 2 shillings daily; and children from 1s 6d to 3s weekly.]

The greater part of the cotton, worked in this manner, was furnished to the manufacturers by the Glasgow merchants, who took them bound to return the thread at certain rates, according to its quality and fineness. This circumstance renders it extremely difficult to estimate the annual amount of cotton thread prepared within the county. But it is understood that several thousand people were employed in this branch, notwithstanding the recency of its establishment.

TAMBOUR AND OTHER WORK.

The operation of the manufacturing spirit,

issuing from Glasgow, as its central point, diverged over this county in every possible direction, and was by no means confined to the branches already mentioned. A number of workers in tambour and figured works on gauzes, silks, and muslins, established little factories at Ayr, Irvine, and in other places, where they employed several hundred girls and children.

IRON MANUFACTURE.

A great company from Glasgow established two blast furnaces at Muirkirk, on the estate of the Hon. Admiral Keith Stewart, in the moorland parts of Ayrshire, with a view of making pig and bar iron on an extensive scale, and they already employ many hundred workmen, to the great advantage of that bleak uncultivated country. Indeed, there are few parts of Great Britain so well adapted to the iron manufacture as Ayrshire, having abundance of coal, lime, and ironstone in every district of the county—possessing also the facility of importing, on reasonable terms, the rich ores of Cumberland or Lancashire to work with Ayrshire materials, which are of a poorer quality.

[NOTE — The improvements carried on by this gentleman do great honour to himself, and will be attended with much benefit to the country. The natives are expert in constructing what are called snap dykes, 5 or 6 feet in height, with large stones bound and locked in an ingenious manner. These, except in great storms of snow, enable the young plantations to be defended from the sheep. Thus shelter will be obtained. Drains and lime are fast changing the appearance of the pastures; and, with green crops and sown grass at the bottoms, will enable a much larger stock to be maintained.]

The unskillfulness of iron masters, however, who remain still ignorant of the right mode of expelling from their coal or cokes the sulphureous particles so prejudicial to iron, has occasioned many eligible situations to be rejected on this account. The enormous expense and uncertainty attending the present system on which this manufacture is conducted, together with the mysterious habits and endeavours of those concerned to preserve it in a few hands, has hitherto prevented it from becoming, as it ought, a source of opulence to this county.

Having been led for many years occasionally to bestow attention on the various chemical and practical operations connected with the modes of smelting and extracting iron from the stones and ore in which it is contained, and of reducing it into a malleable state and into steel, it always occurred to me that there was a radical defect in the whole system which prevails in these kingdoms. Under this impression, I laboured, through a multiplicity of experiments, to discover the proper mode of reducing the metallic parts contained in ironstone and in iron ore into a malleable state, or bar iron, in one furnace by a single process without recurring to the bungling and expensive practice of first smelting the metallic parts of ironstone into pig, with all the subsequent and accumulated extravagance of bloomeries, chafferies, fineries, and air furnaces before a bar of iron can be produced.

I have had the satisfaction to succeed in this endeavour, and have constructed a furnace which performs the purpose mentioned on such easy terms and on so moderate a scale as will enable any landholder who has a few thousand tons of ironstone on his estate, with an adequate supply of coal, to convert into a malleable form without hazarding the expense of blast furnaces and other extravagant establishments seldom costing less than L. 20,000 or L. 30,000 before a shilling of profit is received. But as this discovery does not refer to matters of agriculture, I should not have alluded to it in this address, had it not appeared materially connected with the general improvement of the county under our consideration.

KELP—FOSSIL ALKALI—BARILLA.

There is another article in which the county might derive advantage. The quantities of sea-weed, driven by every south and west wind, on its extensive shores, have been suffered to rot upon the sand, unless a few carts occasionally lifted for manure, and a still smaller proportion of the sea-weed growing upon rocks along the shore, which has been converted into kelp. The great demand for this article arises from the fossil alkali which it contains, so useful for the purposes of glass; essentially requisite in the manufacture of hard soap, and also applicable to various processes in bleaching yarn. As the fossil alkali is obtained from the different plants called wrack, sea-weed, or alga marina, and from no other plant excepting the barilla, which grows on the shores of Spain and Sicily, its value having been constantly increasing with the manufactures in which it has been employed. A ton of barilla sells from £20 to £30, and a ton of common kelp from £4 to £5, and sometimes much higher.

[NOTE.—Fossil alkali is the basis of sea salt, combined with muriatic acid, but no practical mode has yet been devised for extracting the

alkali on advantageous terms. The vegetable alkali, or potash, though very valuable, is by no means applicable to all the purposes in which the fossil alkali is employed. Above 2500 tons of fossil and vegetable alkali are said to be annually imported into Great Britain, and, including kelp manufactured in Scotland, amounts to £7 or £800,000 per annum.]

The mode of manufacturing kelp upon the shores of Ayrshire, and indeed on all the coast of Scotland, is barbarous in the extreme. An open kiln, or mass of stones, is placed upon the ground, about 14 feet long, 3 feet wide, and a foot or two in height. The seed-weed being previously cut and dried, is thrown into this kiln. The bottom is laid with sand and gravel, which impairs the kelp, and diminishes its value. The sea-weed, in the centre of the kiln, may be sufficiently heated to bring it into fusion, but that nearer the outside is chilled by the external air; and the whole, even in the best summer weather, is never brought properly into one equal mass of fusion. In this mode it is hardly practicable to make more than half a ton per day in one kiln. The weed, which, by the power of fire, has undergone the different processes of evaporation and incineration, is brought at last into a melting state. It is then violently stirred with rakes and shovels, and when cooled remains a brown or blueish concrete substance hard as a rock, pungent to the taste, and liable to attract moisture from the atmosphere. But imperfect as this operation is, it cannot take place at all neither in rain, nor in wind, nor in frost. So that the process, requiring a long course of fine weather for drying and burning of the wrack, can only be attempted during a few months, and, in bad seasons, only during a few weeks in summer.

In order to obviate these difficulties, I have contrived a kiln or furnace which, with an apparatus sufficiently economical and simple, dries, burns, and reduces into perfect fusion the sea-weed in all weathers, and renders it a mass of kelp, pure and equal in its parts, and capable of being thrown in a mould or frame. Thus every sample is a true specimen of the whole, and contains no other refuse than the earthy or heterogeneous parts belonging to the weed. These, by repeated experiments, amount to about 50 per cent., and the other half is taken up in solution when the mass is pounded and mixed with a sufficient quantity of water. The refuse is mere insipid useless earth. The 50 per cent. taken up in solution by the water contains all the saline and alkaline particles of every kind contained in the kelp. Of these, a great proportion are composed of common salt, others of sal-glauber, some of hepar sulphuris, while the remainder is pure alkaline salt. These, by an expensive and elaborate process, may be perfectly distinguished, according to the priority in their form and system of chrystallisation, which enables them to be completely separated.

Experiments, which I have frequently repeated, prove that Barilla contains nearly the same proportion of refuse, but the salts extracted from it by solution, possess a much greater proportion of alkali, as the common salt, Glauber salt, and hepar sulphuris, do not predominate in that preparation.

[NOTE.—The basis of common salt is fossil alkali combined with muriatic acid. The basis of sal-glauber, is fossil alkali combined with vitriolic acid. The hepar sulphuris is composed of alkali combined with sulphur; and sulphur consists of vitriolic acid and the inflammable principle, such as is produced by burning wood or charcoal.]

As this process may be of material consequence to the great and ill-conducted manufacture of kelp in the Highlands of Scotland, especially now that the duty on coals carried coast-ways has been taken off, I shall cheerfully communicate the particulars of this plan to any person recommended by your board.

[NOTE.—The abolition of duties on coals carried coastways has conferred a greater benefit on those parts of Scotland which were interested in that measure than any bill passed these many years. It is to be hoped that the Right Hon. Mover, through whose exertions that bill was carried into effect, will add to his own fame and to the advantage of his country by moving the abolition, or commutation, of all duties and restrictions on the use of rock-salt and on the manufacture of that useful article.]

OPINIONS CONCERNING MANUFACTURES—OPERATION OF THEM.

The gentlemen in this, as in other parts of Scotland, under the influence of old feudal prejudices, had originally been extremely hostile to all manufacturing and mercantile transactions. But the enormous increase of rents occasioned by manufactures, and the rise on all articles of subsistence, had conquered these hostilities, and of late years they had very generally afforded unqualified favour and protection to the proposers of new establishments in the way of manufacture. Two material cir-

cumstances, however, have occurred to damp their zeal in these engagements.

In the first place, it is necessary to consider every country and every branch of public operation under the different gradations of an advancing, stationary, and declining state. During the former of these periods, the augmentation of manufactures operates with most salutary impulse on every branch of agricultural improvement and of public prosperity. During the second, they may be considered as in a kind of neutral state, but in the last, or declining period, they become a serious burden and distress on every order of the community. This is verified by hard experience in some provinces of England where every proposal of a new manufacture is considered as a grievance and injury committed against the proprietory interest.

DISADVANTAGES ATTENDING MANUFACTURES.

Although Ayrshire and the Lowlands, on the west of Scotland, have for many years experienced a rapid and progressional improvement, yet every casual check to circulation, every accidental overstrain or injury to credit, from whatever cause arising, has constantly subjected the country to the distressful scene of numberless manufacturers grumbling, unemployed, and destitute.

In the present instance, speculations in cotton, muslin, iron, glass, and other articles had been stretched to an extravagant degree. The quantity of spare money and growing opulence of the country occasioned an extreme facility of credit. The banks were led to grant cash accounts, or to discount bills almost without restriction. The consequences were that every man engaged in profitable speculation no sooner gained a sum than, instead of considering it as a capital to yield an established income, he expended it, with as much more as he could borrow or procure, in extending his adventures, trusting always to the growing increase of advantage. Thus a man who had gained L. 20,000 by twisting cotton yarn with Arkwright's machinery, would build another mill of double power, and expend L. 20,000 besides the profit he had made. By these means, instead of becoming more easy and comfortable in his circumstances, every new success involved him in additional adventures and consequent embarassment.

While general prosperity pervaded every branch of business, the excess of enterprise and daily failures which occurred were only considered as indications of individual extravagance or accidental misfortune. But the first public event occasioning a pause among the speculators, which happened to be a declaration of hostilities on the part of France, acted like the injection of cold water into a steam engine; condensed the unsubstantial vapour, and the whole fabric came tumbling down.

CONDUCT OF THE BANKS—STATE OF CREDIT.

The chartered banks of Scotland, in imitation of the bank of England, finding that the minor operators had trenched on their advantages, and observing also that the competition had involved them in a credulous and hazardous excess of circulation, acting with a precipitancy only equalled by their preceding relaxation, instantly recalled the credits they had so largely granted. Thus a country which, a few months before, enjoyed the heyday of prosperity, was suddenly cramped and palsied in every operation. Traders, manufacturers, miners, graziers, farmers, and landholders, all of whom had overstrained their speculations, found, like Alnaschar, that their basket full of brittle contents was broken. The consequences were that a clamour was attempted to be raised against the most just, necessary, and unavoidable war in which this country ever was engaged; at a moment too when the consequences of hostility could not possibly have materially affected any individual. Against this position, it is presumed that no one will contend, except those who would rather hazard civil strife or invasion at home than hostility abroad. Sober and reflecting men, however, recollect that many of those speculators who have failed for several hundred thousand pounds were never worth as many pence at any period of their existence. That the stoppage which occurred some years ago in the cotton manufactory originated in the same causes, and as far as it extended proved equally severe, although the country then enjoyed profound and general peace. Above all, that in the year 1772, the contagious distemper of overstrained adventure, similar to that which has come to a crisis in 1793, involved the country in general disaster, although the kingdom had not then been engaged in war for a period of 13 years.

These facts undoubtedly expose the unsound principle which has governed this country respecting debts and circulation. The creditor is betrayed into pernicious confidence by severe enactments against the person of the debtor, who in his turn is allured by the ruinous facility with which credit is obtained, by habits of extravagance, or ill-founded hopes of irregular advantage. In former times, the most rational

improvement was checked by a total want of credit, even to the most responsible persons. At present, the country is periodically convulsed by shocks, failures, and stagnations arising from a defective and disordered system. Indeed, the acts in force on the subject of debts and debtors would tempt one to suppose that a writ and a bumbailiff were considered as specifics for every evil which creditors or the country at large can sustain from such transactions.

[NOTE.—Some purse-proud persons, talking of their wealth, were answered by a Glasgow merchant, who humorously boasted that he owed more than all of them were worth. This seems to be the prevailing sentiment which governs the mercantile, manufacturing, and, I may add, the agricultural proceedings of the country. The example of France might have taught us that whenever the disbursements exceed the receipts, whether in a public or private capacity, the consequences must be ruinous. Perhaps it might be more for our permanent interests rather to imitate the practice of Holland, where every man's exertions are proportioned to his means, and where no man can preserve his character and be in debt.]

DANGEROUS PRINCIPLES PREVAILING AMONG MANUFACTURERS.

But there is another point of view in which the manufacturing part of the community are still more liable to imputation. It is by this class that every doctrine of subversion has been cherished; and it is only from the same source that the established orders seem to dread any disturbance. When persons of this description, joined by others of distempered minds, insult society with permanent sittings, bulletins, secret committees, sections, municipalities, conventions, and tocsins, to which, had they proved successful, the Guillotine in due season would have been added, it is time for the sounder part of the community to form a phalanx round the Throne in defence of the constitution. For it is to be hoped that the subverters in this country will not, like the murderers in France, find a set of dastards, ready to shrink from their atrocities, or tamely submit to robbery and slaughter. In this country we may flatter ourselves that if matters ever come to extremity every good subject will be found, in the words of Shakespeare, "at least with harness on his back!"

The result from this deduction is, that whatever benefits eventually may have accrued to the cultivation of Ayrshire from the stimulus of manufacture, still it is a dangerous instrument of improvement, while the plough and the spade have never threatened any peril to the country.

So far, however, from wishing to disjoin these interests, it ever has been my desire to see them moving hand in hand—at this very moment, in conjunction with other proprietors, being engaged in every possible exertion to establish a harbour at the Troon, on this coast, and a canal from thence to Kilmarnock. And I trust ere long another shall take place from Irvine to Paisley, so as to give every advantage to the circulation of manufacture and produce in the county.

CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS—CHARACTER OF THE PEOPLE.

It only remains for me to offer some concluding observations on the character and habits of the different classes into which the inhabitants of Ayrshire are divided.

From the facts already stated, it must appear that they are neither deficient in activity nor in enterprise, and that little more is wanting than to direct those valuable tendencies to proper purposes. The indolence of former times, and feudal prejudices among the upper orders, which formed lines of demarkation and repulsion between them, have fortunately been modulated into more active and easy habits. Improvements in dress, living, and conveniences of life have increased beyond all credibility. But the manners and morals of the different ranks have by no means ameliorated in the same proportion. On the contrary, the civil cordial manners of the former generation are wearing fast away, and in their place is substituting a regardless, brutal, and democratic harshness of demeanor. The former race, it is true, wasted their time in sauntering diversions in smiths' shops and changehouses. But a strong spirit of religion, and deep impressions of morality, not unmingled with some portion of austerity, preserved the general character more free from crimes and gross enormities than the people of any country in Europe, perhaps those of Switzerland alone excepted.

A variety of circumstances have concurred to efface these impressions. The trade of smuggling, which, to a great extent, long prevailed on this coast, naturally introduced a looseness of practice and opinions. Hence arose the pernicious custom of drinking spirits, so generally prevailing as almost entirely to have excluded the consumption of ale and beer. These evils wereex tended and confirmed by the distilleries, which, though checked in their progress by

recent regulations, are still destructive to the health and dispositions of the people. Another source of immorality and perversion of principle arises from the frauds and perjury too frequently occasioned by the mode in which the business of the customs and excise is conducted.

To these is added a great increase of dealings and transactions in every line of life. The levelling manners so prevalent among manufacturers, the frequenting of fairs and markets, the numberless jobbings, sales, and bargains, all tend to substitute a turn for speculation in place of the sober, steady principles of order and economy which Doctor Adam Smith, in his excellent treatise on Moral Sentiments, expressly states as constituting the essential ingredient or rather the distinctive character of virtue attaching to the lower classes of the people. From whence, that great authority avers, they never can deviate without ruin to their families, becoming a disgrace and burden on the country, or falling a prey to the most dissolute and vicious habits.

[NOTE.—This increase of transactions, and its natural consequence litigation, is so great that 40 causes are often advocated in a week before the Sheriff Court, and there are not less than 700 or 800 causes tried in a year before that tribunal.]

EDUCATION.

To correct these evils will require a better and more systematic plan of education than hitherto has been adopted. The people of this country have ever been distinguished for a laudable desire to procure instruction, insomuch that the poorest persons will frequently starve themselves to educate their children.

It is undoubtedly incumbent on the public to grant such means of education to individuals as may enable them to become useful members of society. It is the immediate duty of the landholders in every parish to see not only that the poor are properly maintained, but that the children be instructed in principles of sound religion and morality; that they be trained to industry, and afforded means of useful information, adapted to their capacities and situation.

[NOTE.—On this principle the inhabitants of the United American States have diffused a mass of knowledge through every district of their extensive territories, which is fast rendering them more skilful and enlightened than any other class of men.]

SCHOOLMASTERS.

Unfortunately in this country, as in other districts of the kingdom, the provisions for the schoolmasters are by no means adequate. Men of capacity and talents can hardly be expected to waste their lives in the laborious task of teaching for a smaller sum than they could earn by handycraft. Besides a house and garden, and the usual salary at present, not more than 6l. or 8l. yearly, sometimes augmented by the trifling perquisities of parochial offices, they ought to have an addition of emolument by an increase of salary. No man should be nominated but such as is capable of making reports, surveys, estimates, keeping statistical registers and records, and other operations, by which he might better his condition, and be useful to individuals and the public. It is frequently remarked too, in this part of the country, that they are extremely neglectful of the manners of the rising generation, rather encouraging them in rough and boorish incivilities, than in those acts of reciprocal kindness and urbanity, which afford the best and most pleasing characteristic of any people. A persevering attention, however, from the landholders and clergy, with a proper selection of schoolmasters, and regular examinations of the progress made by the scholars, would check the growth of these disorders.

CLERGY.

To the clergy of this county the public is much indebted, and may derive still farther benefit from their exertions. The intelligence and understanding which distinguish the individuals of this deservedly respected order, together with their professional intercourse among all classes of their parishioners, render them peculiarly adapted for the propagation of useful knowledge, not in matters of religion only, but touching temporal concerns connected with the welfare of the community. The valuable Statistical reports which you have received from the ministers of every parish in this county, with the exception only of one at present vacant, evinces their ability to promote improvement, and the attention they have bestowed on that interesting object.

LANDHOLDERS—CONDITION, CHARACTER, AND DUTIES.

With respect to the upper classes of proprietors or freeholders, and commissioners of supply, there are about 180 persons of these descriptions (of whom 114 are voters) belonging to the county, with estates from 100l. or 200l. to 20,000l. *per annum*.

[NOTE.—There are also 5 or 6 Peers families, of great property.]

NOTE.—The largest estates in the county are about 10,000l. per annum; but the holders of

them have property in other counties, which make their income 20,000l. per annum.]

Several of these families have been of very ancient standing, but the greatest number of old families have, within the present century, been obliged to sell their property, embarrassed by the reigning spirit of conviviality and speculation disproportioned to their income.

[NOTE.—Many farmers have remained on the same lands for 300 or 400 years, and every right-minded landlord gives of course the preference to old tenants. It is difficult, however, to obtain any considerable rise of rent, or to introduce a system of improvement, but by means of new ones.]

Indeed, considering the expence and inattention to affairs connected with the situation of a country gentlemen, and natural tendency of counting upon imaginary rentals long before they become real ones, including too the prevailing course of entertaining, drinking, hunting, electioneering, show, equipage, and the concomitant attacks upon the purse, and misapplication of the time, it appears surprising that any property unentailed should remain above two generations in the same succession, especially in this part of the island where the gentry have not, as in England, the resource of clearing from time to time their pecuniary embarrassments by large sales of timber from their woods, hedge rows, and plantations.

Without adopting any feudal predilection for birth and family, it surely seems desirable that courses which have proved generally ruinous to the interest of proprietors, and in consequence have been attended with such serious checks to cultivation and interruptions to prosperity, should be corrected.

The country has a right to look to this class of men, not only for stability of character, urbanity of manners, and that sentiment of honour and humanity, which constitutes the liberal features of a gentleman, but for the encouragement of all that is excellent in arts, embellishing or useful in the intercourse and transactions of human life. In the present state of things, men of high degree are only respected in proportion as they possess these qualities. When they happen to be marked by unpolished manners, or disgraceful conduct, they excite no other sentiments than those of indignation or contempt.

Unfortunately, the landed proprietors in this, as in all other quarters of the kingdom, were formerly accustomed to consider themselves, in respect of their estates, as merely *Fruges consumere nati*, and in general were inclined to think that they had nothing more to do than draw their rents and spend them, unmindful of the obligations imposed by the intimate relation which they hold with the prosperity and welfare of the country. But now a better spirit has gone forth among them, and undoubtedly, when such strong endeavours have been made to decompose the principles and elements of which all civilised society is compounded, it requires the best exertions of every well-intentioned individual to prevent so mischievous a process from being carried into effect. Landholders, whatever their pursuits in life may be, are now generally conscious that they owe their first duties and attentions to their tenants and estates. It is just matter of reproach for any man to be ignorant or careless in his trade, more particularly when the right performance of that trade involves the welfare of the most useful class of men, and the means of subsistence on which the whole community depends.

EXAMPLES OF ENGLAND, IRELAND, AND THE HIGHLANDS.

If it could be necessary to enforce so plain a truth, the landed interest of this county might receive abundant admonition from the examples of England, Ireland, and the Highlands of Scotland.

In the greatest part of England all the ties of intimacy and attachment between the landlord and the renter are entirely broken, to the detriment of both. In Ireland, at least in many parts of it, owing to the evil system under which the land is let, neglect of education, and other circumstances, originating perhaps from inattention or misconduct in the landholders, the actual occupiers of the soil are poor and wretched, and impoverish the most fertile parts of the three kingdoms, often endangering the lives of any persons who attempt to improve their country or themselves. In the Highlands of Scotland a system and order of society did prevail, which, although unfriendly to the arts of cultivation, called forth some of the best principles and warmest attachments of the human heart, uniting, by mutual claims of permanent regards, the different classes, *under such strong connections and nice dependencies* as nothing but the avarice, extravagance, and inattention of the higher ranks could have dissolved.

Perhaps the best blessings which your Board can possibly bestow upon the country will arise from restoring to their proper order those necessary relations, which never can be inverted without detriment and danger. As the Diplom-

atic Body were rendered eminently useful in France by collecting important political information in other states for the use of that kingdom, so it is to be hoped that the British Government, by means of your Board, will procure for us a mass of knowledge on the general subjects of improvement, unequalled in any other age or country.

[NOTE.—See particularly the valuable work called "Memoires concernant les impositions et Droits en Europe."]

At all events, the public trusts to your establishment for diffusing every useful fact and ascertaining every solid principle that ought to regulate the management of land and its productions. At the same time, the energy with which your career has opened affords well-grounded expectation that you will persevere, under the impression so happily described by a classical author, who thought nothing done while anything remained to be performed—

Nil actum reputans, si quid superesset agendum.

STATISTICS OF THE VALUATION AND CONTENTS OF AYRSHIRE.

Subjoined to Col. Fullarton's work is a "Statistical Table of the Valuation and Contents of Ayrshire." The "Contents" are described as:—"Carrick, 201,603 Scotch acres, equal to 253,540 English acres; Coil, 192,440 Scotch, or 241,920 English acres; Cuninghame, 130,837 Scotch, or 164,480 English acres. Total acres in Ayrshire, 526,603 Scotch, or 662,065 English.

The following is the Valuation of the Parishes. Except where specified as "Scotch" the valuation is "real":—

CARRICK.—Maybole, £9440 9s 7d (Scotch); Straiton, £3000; Kirkmichael, about £3000; Girvan, £3200; Daily, £3300; Bar, 1493 5s (Scotch); Colmonell, £1100; Kirkoswald, £4000; Ballantrae, £2000.

COIL.—Monkton, including Prestwick, £2500; Craigie, including Barnwell, £4000; Riccarton, £4327; Auchinleck, £3462 15s 4d (Scotch); Galston, £6000; Symonton, £3000; Coilton, £2000; Tarbolton. £6239 16s 4d (Scotch); Muirkirk, £1400; Old Cumnock, £3000; New Cumnock, £3500; Ochiltree, including Stair, £7845 6s (Scotch); Dalmellington, £1700; Mauchline, £3500; Sorne £5232 (Scotch); Dundonald, including Corsbie Fullarton, £6500; Dalrymple, £1979 8s 2d (Scotch); St Quivox, £3500; Ayr, £3700; Newton-on-Ayr — no return.

CUNINGHAME.—Dreghorne, £3168 14s 10d (Scotch); Kilmaurs, £5000; Dunlop, £3000; Loudoun, £5695 14s 4d (Scotch); Kilbirnie, £2905 (Scotch); Stevenston, £1200; Kilwinning, £6000; Stewarton, £7000; Kilmarnock, including Fenwick, £5400; Beith, about £5000; Irvine, £1988 12s (Scotch); Kilbride, £2530; Dalry, £6350; Ardrossan, including Saltcoats, £2840 16s 8d (Scotch); Largs, £3801 16s 2d (Scotch).

The remainder of the statistics are best given in parishes. It will be seen that the returns are largely incomplete:—

CARRICK.

MAYBOLE.—Number of souls, 3750; population in 1755, 2058; length in miles, 12; breadth in miles, 7. Soil, various. Much light and improvable land.

STRAITON.—Number of souls, 934; proprietors, 7; farmers, 33; cows, 2100; sheep, 20,000; population in 1755, 1123; collection for poor, £30; length, 15 miles; breadth, 7 miles. Chiefly pasture. Wild moors. Sow 600 quarters of grain. One farm of 6000 acres rented at £50.

KIRKMICHAEL.—Number of souls, 956; proprietors, 6; paupers, 20; population in 1755, 710; collection for poor, £30; extent in Scotch acres, 10,000. Chiefly pasture. About 1400 acres under tillage. Land lets from 3s to 10s per acre. Few horses, few sheep, chiefly cattle.

GIRVAN.—Number of souls, 1725; proprietors, 10; farmers, 78; paupers, 36; cows, 1700; sheep, 5000; population in 1755, 1193; collection for poor, £41; length, 9 miles; breadth, 6 miles. Two-thirds hilly pasture. Low parts arable. Along the shore abundance of coal and lime.

DAILY.—Number of souls, 1607; proprietors, 8; horses, 150; cows, 1450; sheep, 5000; population in 1755, 839; length, 6 miles; breadth, near 6 miles; extent in Scotch acres, 17,000. Soil, various. Great part arable. Large tracts of moor. Plenty of coal, lime, and marle.

BAR.—Number of souls, 750; farmers, 46; cows, 2000; sheep, 25,000; population in 1755, 858. Dry, hilly pasture. Some parts arable. Full of lime.

COLMONEL.—Number of souls, 1100; proprietors, 17; farmers, 116; paupers, 24; horses, 232; cows, 2900; sheep, 12,000; population in 1755, 1814; collection for poor, £20; length, 14 miles; breadth, 6 miles. Number of ploughs, 106. Hilly pasture; the bottoms arable.

KIRKOSWALD.—Number of souls, 1335; proprietors, 8; farmers, 102; paupers, 21; horses,

200; population in 1755, 1168; length, 6 miles; extent in Scotch acres, 11,000. Fine land along the shore, capable of great improvement.

BALLANTRAE.—Number of souls, 770; horses, 200; cows, 3000; sheep, 12,000; population in 1755, 1049; length, 10 miles. Ten miles square. About 12,000 arable acres. Only 800 are now in tillage. Extends 10 miles along the shore.

COIL.

MONKTON, including Prestwick.—Number of souls, 717; proprietors, 7, besides 36 freemen of Prestwick; farmers, 30; paupers, 12; horses, 92; cows, 220; sheep, 250; population in 1755, 1163; collection for poor, £22; length, 4 miles; breadth, 2¼ miles; extent in Scotch acres, 3500. Greatest part arable, excepting sand hills on the shore. Population in 1755, including Newton-on-Ayr, now separate.

CRAIGIE, including Barnwell—Number of souls, 700; proprietors, 16; paupers, 12; horses, 246; cows, 738; population in 1755, 551; collection for poor, £20; extent in Scotch acres, 5500. All arable. Full of coal and lime. Few sheep.

RICCARTON.—Number of souls, 1300; proprietors, 8; paupers, 15; horses, 207; cows, 848; sheep, 69; population in 1755, 745; collection for poor, £24; length, 6 miles; breadth, 2 miles; extent in Scotch acres, 4736. All arable, except 138 acres. 60 ploughs, 131 carts. Coal and lime. Soil, deep clay. Farms from 60 to 150 acres.

AUCHINLECK.—Number of souls, 775; proprietors, 13; farmers, 72; horses, 220; cows, 1000; sheep, 12,000; population in 1755, 887; length, 18 miles; breadth, 2 miles. Great part arable, clay soil. Large tracts of heath. Coal and lime.

GALSTON.—Number of souls, 1577; proprietors, 50; farmers, 100; sheep, several thousands; population in 1755, 1013; collection for poor, £40; length, 13 miles; breadth, 5 miles. Above 7000 arable acres. Remainder high and moorish. No beggars. Occasional aid to old and sick persons. Two societies for relief of members unable to work. 30 acres of flax. 7 corn mills.

SYMONTON.—Number of souls, 610; proprietors, 16; tenants, 25; paupers, 12; horses, 120; cows, 500; sheep, 200; population in 1755, 359; collection for poor, £27; length, 4 miles; breadth, 1¼ miles; extent in Scotch acres, 2900; all arable, clay soil. Two mills. Two alehouses. No felonies for many years. Cheese and butter annually sold for £1270.

COULTON.—Number of souls, 667; proprietors, 9; farmers, 57; paupers, 10; horses, 115; cows, 750; sheep, 1240; population in 1755, 527; collection for poor, £50; length, 7 miles; breadth, 2 miles; extent in Scotch acres, 7080. Clay soil; tilly bottom.

TARBOLTON.—Proprietors, 19; farmers, 130; horses, 386; cows, 1800; sheep, 500; population in 1755, 1365. Chiefly clay soil; greatest part arable; some heath.

MUIRKIRK.—Number of souls, 1100; proprietors, 14; horses, 75; sheep, 14,000; population in 1755, 745; length, 11 miles; breadth, 5 miles. All moorish. Full of coal, lime, and ironstone.

OLD CUMNOCK.—Number of souls, 1632; proprietors, 6; paupers, 23; horses, 220; cows, 1000; sheep, 2000; population in 1755, 1338; length, 10 miles; breadth, 2 miles; extent in Scotch acres, 10,000. Cold soil; coal and lime. 150 carts. Social dispensary for members unable to work.

NEW CUMNOCK.—Number of souls, 1200; proprietors, 10; farmers, 80; paupers, few; horses, 400; cows, 1000; sheep, 20,000; population in 1755, 1497; collection for poor, £26; length, 12 miles; breadth, 8 miles; extent in Scotch acres, 50,000. High and moorish. Greatest part not arable.

OCHILTREE.—Number of souls, 1150; proprietors, 10; paupers, 20; population in 1755, 1210; collection for poor, £36; length, 6 miles; breadth, 5 miles. Mostly arable; only four grazing farms not arable.

STAIR.—Number of souls, 518; proprietors, 6; tenants, 56; horses, 180; cows, 780; sheep, 300; population in 1755, 369; length, 6 miles; breadth, 2 miles. Soil, stiff clay; greatest part tarable and enclosed. In the year 1736, when enclosing began, the people destroyed all the fences.

DALMELLINGTON.—Number of souls, 681; proprietors, 4; paupers, 27; horses, 50; cows, 300; sheep, 8000; population in 1755, 739; length, 8 miles; breadth, 3 miles. Wild and moorish.

MAUCHLINE.—Number of souls, 1800; farmers, 73; paupers, 30; horses, 240; cows, 1080; sheep, few; population in 1755, 1169; collection for poor, £50; length, 7 miles; breadth, 4 miles. Surface flat; soil, clay and arable. A Society for relief of those who cannot work.

SORNE.—Population in 1755, 1494.

DUNDONALD (including Corsbie Fullarton).—Number of souls, 1317; proprietors, 16; farmers, about 50; paupers, 7; horses, 355; cows, 1850; sheep, 1100; population in 1755, 983; collection for poor, £36; length, 9 miles;

breadth, 7 miles; extent in Scotch acres, about 10,000. Soil various; much rich land; part hilly; on the shore sandy. 1600 English acres in rabbit warren. Coal, sea-weed; no lime.

DALRYMPLE.—Number of souls, 380; proprietors, 5; farmers, 40; paupers, 7; population in 1755, 439; collection for poor, £11; length, 6 miles; breadth, 2 miles. Soil not deep; arable and improvable along the river Doon.

ST. QUIVOX.—Number of souls, 1450; proprietors, 8; farmers, 30; paupers, 20; horses, 132; cows, 750; sheep, few; population in 1755, 499; extent in Scotch acres, 3500; all arable; 104 carts.

AYR.—Number of souls, 4100; proprietors, 60; population in 1755, 2964; collection for poor, £150 (also contributed, £215); length, 4 miles; breadth, 2 miles; extent in Scotch acres, 5000. Land all arable; hospital for 60 persons; 10 schools, 250 scholars; 76 debtors; 73 criminals; 40 vagrants in 1790. A barred harbour.

NEWTON-ON-AYR.—Number of souls, 1689; paupers, 18; collection for poor, £50; extent in Scotch acres, 350. Many vagrants; 20 ale houses.

CUNINGHAME.

DREGHORNE.—Number of souls, 830; proprietors, 20; population in 1755, 887; length, 9 miles; breadth, 3 miles; all arable. Average rent of land, 25s per acre.

KILMAURS.—Number of souls, 1147; proprietors, 32; farmers, 53; horses, 150; cows, 1464; sheep, few; population in 1755, 1094; extent in Scotch acres, 4400. All rich arable land.

DUNLOP.—Number of souls, 779; proprietors, 55; farmers, 68; horses, 117; cows, about 1000; sheep, few; population in 1775, 776; extent in Scotch acres, 5163. Fine pasture land. Sell cheese to the value of £4000 yearly. All arable, except about 850 acres.

LOUDOUN.—Number of souls, 2308; four-fifths the property of the Countess of Loudoun; farmers, 50; sheep, 1600; population in 1755, 1494; collection for poor, £50; length, 9 miles; breadth, 7 miles; extent in Scotch acres, 10,000. Three-fourths arable, rest moss; 250 carts; 4 draw kilns; much coal. John Earl of Loudoun planted one million of trees.

KILBIRNIE.—Number of souls, 700; population in 1775, 657. One-third hill and moor, remainder good land.

STEVENSTON.—Number of souls, 2425; proprietors, 7; farmers, 20; paupers, 12; horses, 135; cows, 700; sheep, few; population in 1755, 1412; extent in Scotch acres, 3300. On the shore, the land sandy. A large rabbit warren. Fine coal.

KILWINNING.—Number of souls, 2360; proprietors, 9, besides 60 feuers; farmers, 132; paupers, 36; population in 1755, 2541; collection for poor, £89; length, 9 miles; breadth, 8 miles. Rich land, all arable.

STEWARTON.—Number of souls, 3000; proprietors, 128; population in 1755, 2819; collection for poor, £40; extent in Scotch acres, about 10,000; 90 ploughs. Of the proprietors, 120 are portioners or feuers.

KILMARNOCK.—Number of souls, 6776; proprietors, 24; farmers, 80; paupers, 80; horses, 350; cows, 2000; sheep, a few hundreds; population in 1755, 4403; collection for poor, £100; extent in Scotch acres, 6000; ale houses, 50. 3000 people manufacture goods worth £90,000 annually. Soil a strong clay, all arable.

FENWICK.—Population in 1755, 1113. Partly clay, partly moor and moss.

BEITH.—Number of souls, 2872; proprietors, 105; population in 1755, 2064; collection for poor, £45; length, 5 miles; breadth, 4 miles. All arable. Sell cheese to the amount of £4000 per annum. Coal and lime. About the year 1760 sold linen yarn worth £16,000 annually. 3 charitable associations.

IRVINE.—Number of souls, 4500; population in 1755, 4025; length, 5 miles; breadth, 2 miles. A small shallow harbour. Several charitable associations. The inhabitants industrious and affluent, without manufactures.

KILBRIDE.—Number of souls, 1276; proprietors, 19; farmers, 40; paupers, 7; horses, 155; cows, 620; sheep, 2000; population in 1755, 885; length, 6 miles; breadth, 3 miles. All hilly. Quantities of flax raised, usually sown after potatoes. 7000 yards of cloth annually sold, worth about 1s 3d per yard.

DALRY.—Number of souls, 2000; proprietors, 90, one of whom has one-third of parish; horses, 300; cows, 1900; sheep, 1300; population in 1755, 1498; collection for poor, £60; extent in Scotch acres, about 12,000. About one-third not arable, remainder good land, capable of great improvement. Coal and lime in every part of the parish.

ARDROSSAN (including Saltcoats).—Number of souls, 1518; proprietors, 8; farmers, 31; paupers, 12; population in 1755, 1297; length, 9 miles; breadth, 2 miles. Port of Saltcoats small, but capable of great improvement.

Great quantities of coals shipped for Ireland. Nine-tenths arable, but chiefly in pasture.

LARGS.—Number of souls, 1139; population in 1755, 1164; length, 9 miles; breadth, 2 miles. Little cultivated. Extends along the Clyde.

VALUATION AND POPULATION.

Valuation of the county certified by John Boswell, Esq., clerk, £191,605 0s 7d Scotch. Real Rent, supposed to be between £150,000 and £160,000 sterling annually. Population in 1755, 59,009 souls; ditto in 1791, taking Sorne, Fenwick, and Tarbolton as in 1755, 73,892.

MINUTES OF IMPROVEMENT ON AYRSHIRE ESTATES.

[NOTE.—Before leaving the subject of early agricultural improvement, it will be interesting to subjoin copies of the Minutes of Improvement on the estates of Gadgirth, Dumfries House, Drongan, Kilkerran, and Newfield. These we reproduce from 'The Ayrshire Agriculturist' of 1843. They appeared originally in what the editor of the 'Agriculturist' calls "An old and scarce publication," and, as will be seen, carry us further back in the eighteenth century than does the treatise of Colonel Fullarton.]

GADGIRTH, 1777.

(By the late Rev. Mr Steele.)

I have not been an extensive farmer, but have taken some pains with a large tract of very poor land, whereof I became proprietor in the year 1740. It was quite covered with furze and short heath of hard tilly bottom, but easily reduced by frost, summer heat, and repeated ploughings. After having enclosed, and divided it with ditch and hedge, in a manner afterwards described, and in such a direction as might best carry off the water that could not pass through the hard bottom, I next hoed out the furze, gathered them in heaps upon the ground, then ploughed out with eight oxen, cross ploughed it, and, with a heavy triangular brake, tore the lumps to pieces, until nothing but the coarse vegetable part remained, which I also added to the heaps of firm roots turned up by the plough. These I burnt in the first dry weather in the spring; and having twice ploughed the ridges to about six feet broad, I sowed oats in the end of March, and scattered the ashes I had from the burnt heaps, harrowing them in with the grain. I had upwards of seven quarters (English) upon the acre, and upon grinding them had twenty-one pecks of meal from the quarter.

I ploughed down the stubble after harvest, gave it a small quantity of dung in the beginning of March after two ploughings, and sowed it with pease, covering them with a light furrow, from which I had two quarters and a half per acre, with a good deal of straw. I ploughed down the stubble, which was left very rough; next spring I ploughed it twice, going deeper at every ploughing, and raised some of the till bottom which was reduced by the seasons, and helped to deepen the soil when incorporated with it. I sowed it again with pease, without additional manure, and had a better crop than the former.

Having got a good quantity of dung from the pease straw, wherewith I fed my oxen to good advantage, I sowed bere, and had a very good crop, but did not lay it down, as I foresaw that the seeds of furze and heath would vegetate again unless they were, by frequent ploughings, made to spring in order to their destruction by after ploughings, which I effected by alternate crops of pease and bere, adding a small quantity of dung to the bere crop, also ploughing three or four times to each crop. I found that the additional ploughings, beyond what are usually given to crops of bere, were repaid at least to the half of the dung that is commonly applied for raising bere crops. By this course of management, having made the soil quite mellow, and killed the seeds set upon it in its natural state, I laid it down, after many

ploughings, with dung, bere, and grass seeds; I had an excellent crop of bere, and the two succeeding hay crops were remarkably good. This was my method with many wild fields in the state above mentioned, which in succession were used in the same way.

[NOTE.—I am not clear that the seed of whins can be totally destroyed by ploughing, even in the course of any given number of years, as my own experience teaches me that whins resume their place after twenty years' tillage and cropping with corn.]

As to the grounds which have been scratched and scourged by the tenants before I came to the possession of it, they were such poor hungry objects, and so cursed for the sake of their former persecutors, as made me despair of ever rousing them into a state of vigour and fertility; for even resting did them little or no good. The means of enriching them was not easily had, lime being very distant and expensive.

Ploughing was the chief measure I had recourse to; and having given it a small quantity of dung, after several ploughings, I sowed it with pease, and had a tolerable crop. I turned down the stubble before winter, and gave it one furrow in the spring, which brought it to a proper state for planting potatoes, which I did at four feet distance between the rows, horse-hoed the interstices, and hand-hoed about the plants. I did not give them above a third part of the dung that is usually applied for wheat or barley. The ground is hereby thoroughly fallowed, and the crop has always amounted to above forty bolls upon the Scots acre; which being sold, even at the low price of sixpence per peck, weighing equal to four pecks of meal, makes a good return, especially as the weeds are destroyed, the soil pulverised, and made fit for carrying a good crop of wheat with one furrow without any manure. The potatoes are taken off in the end of September, and the wheat sown immediately. If the land is laid up in ridge through the winter, barley may be sown in the spring without further manure.

I follow the same plan with turnip, and sow barley or bere in the spring, the turnip being ate off by the middle of March, having given the ground two furrows.

The method I follow as to kail is much the same. As early as the state of ground will permit, I lay it up in ridges before winter. I sow white pease of all kinds in separate drills, and beans of all kinds in other drills, keeping the kinds separated. This being done with dung in the drills, about the middle of February I plough the inter-spaces several times, as the crops require, until the end of June. I then plant cabbage and kail of all kinds on the sides of the drills, which do no hurt to the crops, and are not hurt by them; and when the pease and beans are taken off, the kail have full room to spread, and their roots to penetrate into the dung in the drills. I have by this method as good crops of each of these as if they were all in separate rows. The kail, though four feet distant in the rows, came to meet in the beginning of October, and came to a very great size. They are not hurt by the severest frost, except perhaps some of the cabbages; the ground is quite covered by them; and when the garden crops of greens last year were all destroyed by frost, I did not lose one plant.

Having limestone to bring from Ayr in the spring, I sent a great parcel of kail to be sold in the street, and had about £3 sterling for an acre, besides a great deal I applied to my own use. I feed my milk cows with them in frost, when the turnip cannot be raised.

After two ploughings in April, I sow barley or bere with very good success. I have tried the red Jamaica yam in the same way, and have upward of a hundred of increase. They are not reckoned so good for eating as the potato, but are equally good for cattle of all kinds, and they are all fond of them. I had many of them this season weighing three pounds of twenty-four ounces each. They grew so strong and thick in the stalks, and took so much earth to support them, as to make it needful to put them at six feet distance in the rows, and two feet in the drill, for the future.

As to the method of managing ground already improved, I have little to add to what has been written by very good hands, and generally known, however little practised. In applying lime, I find that a small quantity scattered equally on the ploughed surface, and harrowed in with the grain with the last bout, has a much better effect than a great quantity applied in any other way.

As to the management of grass fields after they are laid down, I, in that, as in everything else, lay aside systems, as they fetter invention, and stop the progress of improvement, which reason, attention, and steadiness only can promote.

As I have a great deal of coal culm, or small coal, left above ground from coal pits I have in that field, I burn it in heaps, still adding more as the fire breaks out, until I have a great quantity of ashes that have been burning for several months. In place of dung, I lay these

in drills for turnip, putting some of the mellow earth above them before I sow the seed. And here I have the largest and best turnips I ever saw. These ashes, mixed with pigeon dung, bring extremely good onions, garlic, shallot, &c.

OF ENCLOSING AND PLANTING.

My enclosures are most of them made with a ditch about five feet wide. I plant always two rows of thorn, the top of the thorns below thereby filling up the interval betwixt the stems of the two thorns above, and thickens the hedge. I put a crab at about twenty feet distance in the hedge-row, which I inoculated with apples, from which I have the pleasure of blossom, without much fruit. About a foot above the thorns I put in slips of different roses, which do no hurt to the hedge, and are a very cheap ornament, especially on the sides of roads. As I gave every dyke a back drain of about a foot wide, I laid the turf or surface taken out of it on the side to keep up the earth that composed the dyke. About a foot and a half from it, I planted a row of well-grown trees, particularly beech, oak, elm, sweet chesnut, which I raised with great balls of their own earth. This not only secured their steadiness, but also their quick growth, as they had a double surface to feed upon. This method I still continue, as trees carefully planted in this way never fail, and make an amazing progress, whereof I have thousands of valid and thriving witnesses. I raise and nurse all my trees, and put them at such distances in the nursery as to be able to raise them with such a quantity of their own earth as not to hurt their fibres in the raising.

Most of the divisions I have made are done with strips of planting. Such as extend to the length of an English mile, I have made 150 feet broad between hedge and hedge, planting fifty feet on each side, and leaving fifty feet of a walk in middle. The front lines next the walk are planted with beech and lime, and filled up behind, at an equal distance between the front trees with laburnum, wild service, wild cornel, &c. I plant the principal trees within the stripes, at about twenty feet distance, and fill up the intervals with all kinds of firs, leaving room to the pinaster to grow in its natural luxuriance, as its leaf keeps a perpetual verdure.

When I first began to plant, I put in a good deal of birch, but have given that up, except a few of the weeping ones, as the seed of them spreads and infects the neighbouring grounds, and never came to any account, compared with the firs, which, in twenty-five years from their being planted, I cut away for oppressing better trees, and sold from one shilling to four shillings per tree, at the rate of £50 per year from ten acres, and so on through sixty years in rotation. The next clearing must yield much more, as the good trees must be more relieved. The birch, planted the same year, came to small account. I could not draw more than from a penny to a shilling for each tree. They give but little shelter, though they afford a variety when thinly scattered among other trees.

Others of my division stripes I make narrow or wide according to their length; and proportion the size of my plantations on the highest grounds suitable to the extent of their summits, and follow the circular or oval figure of them with the fence which bounds the plantation, making opens from the centre or not, according to the beauty of the objects that can be seen from them.

I give the ground several ploughings before planting, which I always do very near the surface, having suffered much in my early practice by putting my trees into pits, reaching the clay or till bottom, where they stood in a basin of water through winter, and were thrown out of the ground or chilled by the frost. By following the other method, I have plantations more advanced in fifteen years than by that in thirty.

I have heard many gentlemen complaining that so much beech is planted, and regretting that oak had not been put in its place, as its bark is of such value and its timber better. This will appear not to be well founded if they consider that beech is commonly, and indeed properly, placed in front lines of walks or opens, and bears dressing to a regular form. The oak will not bear this, and is more irregular in its growth, obstructing the sight of any object that is meant to be seen in the termination of a walk or opening. The beech will grow where oak will not, and that even upon the poorest sand or gravel, and will there advance more in ten years than the oak in forty, to my certain experience. Besides, it is useful for purposes which the other will not answer; and it is found upon trial that no timber, even plain acer majus, or sycamore, or elm, makes better pumps of all kinds than beech. The beauty of its bark, leaves, and shape of its head, say much in its favour. The *Sorbis Silvestris*, wild service, mountain ash, or rowan tree, I have planted in great numbers behind the front trees in the openings of plantations. Their bark is of equal value with that of the oak. Its flower and fruit recommend its beauty, and the

thrush and blackbird are fond of its berries. I plant it alternately with the bird-cherry and laburnum, whose flower is beautiful, and its wood not inferior to mahogany both in colour and durability.

Of all the trees I have planted, the larix is the quickest grower. I have many of them at thirty years of age eighteen inches diameter. Time has not yet tried the duration of the timber; but, for the compactness of its wood, its red colour and strength, it excels the fir, which, besides its beauty, should recommend it to be planted in sheltered places for its usefulness. The Virginian, or Occidental platanus, is another very quick grower; and though late in putting out its leaves in the spring, is the last tree that quits with them, and has this peculiarity, that the leaves are never eaten by vermin. The oriental platanus is a very slow grower, and much inferior to the other in this climate.

I shall only add to what I have said, a few observations as to my management of a piece of natural wood very near my house. It was chiefly occupied with bramble, black-thorn, and stumps of old decayed trees, which left no possibility of pasturing cattle in it. I bargained for the trenching of twelve acres of it at £4 per acre, leaving the good trees at proper distances. After having burnt all the rubbish in the spring, I scattered the ashes, and sowed it with Polish oats, from which I had nine quarters per acre. Next year I ploughed it where the growing trees would permit, pointed about the roots of them, and sowed with oats again, with grass seeds, and had a most luxuriant crop. The twigs of the howed trees and trashy grass being hereby killed, I had the following two seasons extremely good hay, and since very good pasture. The remaining trees are in a more thriving state than formerly, and the field is very beautiful. It may be of use to observe that the blackthorn, after being trenched out, never springs again. Though broom and furze frequently do, if they are pulled up by the hand while young, and the ground loose, they may be totally banished. The bramble, by constant cutting, will in time be killed, which it will be difficult to do by any other means, as its roots go too deep to be traced in light soil. By repeated pulling off the leaves of any vegetables, their growth will soon cease, as they feed by the leaves as much as by the roots. By many experiments and strict attention for many years to the nature and progress of the different kinds of trees that are suited to our climate, I might swell my observations to a great bulk, and add many to what have been already written on that subject; but having little time for speculation, I must proceed to practice, and do with all my might what my hands find to do, as I am coming down while my trees are coming up.

DUMFRIES HOUSE.

Dumfries House was built by the late Earl, who, at the same time, enclosed and planted much. In particular, 35 acres, not far from the house, were planted with oaks, which are now beautiful, and grow luxuriously. This has encouraged the present Earl to continue the plantations in belts round his enclosures, and clumps on every height, which embellish the country at present, and in time will be very profitable. The land which the present Earl has in his own hand extends to 1200 acres, including pleasure ground.

Lady Dumfries is the best assistant that ever blessed a man who delights in improvements. She is the very soul of husbandry and manufactures in that part of the country. She zealously patronises the woollen manufacture at Cumnock, and the linen manufacture all around, giving premiums to promote each. In that view her Ladyship has excellent crops of flax on her Lord's farm, so extensive as more than once to have gained premiums given by the trustees for manufactures.

More particularly with respect to agriculture it is amazing what skill her Ladyship has acquired in a few years, which she puts in execution, relieving her Lord almost wholly of the trouble of attendance. She is a substitute that leaves nothing undone. A field of level ground, frequently inundated by the overflowing of the river Lugar, was rendered no better than a bog. Much draining was necessary, and parallel drains were opened, the distance more or less according to the degree of wetness, and all filled with brushwood. The ground being now made dry, a part, proper for turnips, was dunged in the rows, well hoed, and a very good crop raised. The rest was fallowed for corn, straight ridges made 10 feet broad, and 50 bolls of shell lime given to every acre. One half was sown with wheat. I saw the crop, which was uncommonly good. The barley on the remaining portion was also good. The whole was sown with grass seeds, never again to be opened.

His Lordship's mode of liming is 100 bolls of shells per acre, laid in summer on the grass sward, to lie three years before opening with

the plough. The reason given is, that this limestone being full of sand, falls not into powder in less time; that even then it is not fine, but of a gritty substance, which, however, operates mightily upon the clay soils in this country. The quantity of sand in that limestone is indeed a good reason for the great quantity that is given of it, but not for allowing it to lie so long upon the surface, subject to the inconveniency of returning in some degree to its original state of raw limestone. Nor can I have any doubt but that plenty of water will make it fall instantly into as fine a powder as it will do by being long exposed to moisture from the air. There is a limestone quarry in that neighbourhood, which, when slaked, falls into very fine powder, and is reckoned better upon light soil; undoubtedly, because light soil would rather be hurt by sand, which is little inferior to lime itself for clay land.

[NOTE.—Lime exposed to the weather for many years recovers, by degrees, the air that was expelled by burning, and in time returns to its original state of limestone, and is consequently unfit for manure.]

Turnip, cabbage, potatoes, pease, and beans are raised on the light soils, all in drills, which make a fine preparation for barley and grass seeds. The clay land is summer-fallowed for wheat. On land opened from lea oats is the first crop. If it be very stiff, a second crop of oats is taken, in order that the sward may be thoroughly rotted. The next crop is drilled beans with dung. There being a great demand for grass in this country, no sooner is an enclosure ready to be let than there are many bidders for it. The Earl's only difficulty is to confine them within bounds; and he seldom accepts of rent more than 20s per acre. This demand for grass is not confined to graziers. The neighbouring tenants stand as much in need of it. Rather than lay down any part of the farm in grass, they are willing to pay the rent mentioned; though it is seldom that their farms in corn return above three after one. Strange that men should be so blinded by custom against the light of common sense! But Ayrshire need not surprise us. The low country of Berwickshire was in the same style not 30 years ago; and East Lothian too, wherein a few obstinate tenants still persist to persevere even to this day.

Red clover does not succeed here. In a rainy climate, the ground is seldom dry in winter; and upon the ground when wet, frost makes a great impression. Hence it is that red clover does not thrive here. It is too tender either for frost or moisture. Ryegrass never fails, and is sown in plenty. I recommend ribwort and white clover as hardy plants than can endure a severe season.

Sheep of any kind will thrive here, as the pasture is fine, and the grass rises in plenty. The Earl, therefore, is thinking of improving his sheep by cross breeding. At the same time his object is not the highest priced sheep, but what will suit the staple of the country. The last thing I have to observe is that the water of Lugar is a troublesome neighbour, by laying waste many fine spots on its banks. The Earl, by a laborious work, has widened its bed, raised banks with an easy slope, and sowed natural grass to bring a sward on the bank that may preserve it from being pitted by the water in a flood.

DRONGAN ESTATE.

(Drawn up by Mr Smith in 1778.)

I am sorry I was so unlucky as to be from home when you intended me the honour of a visit; but, had you examined more particularly the state of my farm, and manner of cultivation, you perhaps would not have had so high an opinion of my knowledge as a farmer as you seem to have at present; though it is certain my farm wears a very different aspect now from what it did in the year 1770, being the first season I had it in my power to get any quantity of manure brought to it worth mentioning, on account of having no made road till that time; and as since that period I have had too many things to do to attend to the *minutiæ* of farming, my methods of cultivation have been very simple. In the first place, most parts of my land were outfield long rested, at least, fifty years, and covered with a mixture of short flowering heath, bent, and sprit, in which case my way has been to lay on the sward at the rate of 166 bolls of five Winchester bushels of lime in powder per acre; sometimes more, and never less on old rested land. But though I say at the rate of five Winchester bushels of powdered lime to the boll, I do not mean that my lime is reduced to powder before it is laid on the land, as I always lay it on so soon as I get it from the kiln, and it is often too much slaked by the weather before I can get it led out. This lime I sometimes let lie on the ground three years before ploughing, as I am convinced the longer it lies the better, and I never plough any that has not lain at least one year, unless some small part of a field that has not been finished for want of lime, or some

other circumstance. From that land I commonly take three crops of oats running, the last always the best; and I always find the crops best where the lime has lain longest upon the sward, but most remarkably so in the first crop. After the three crops of oats, I generally sow grey pease; but, as the soil and climate are unfriendly, it is frequently late in the season before I can sow them. I seldom have many pease, but always a great quantity of straw, equal to any crop of hay I may expect: so that I do not think myself disappointed. After the pease, I sow here, with about 18 bolls of red and white clover, and 3 bushels of ryegrass to the acre, giving betwixt 40 and 50 double carts of dung, and two or three ploughings as the season and other operations will permit. This is my method when the land is well swarded, and the ridges narrow, and of course, flat or even, so that I can easily make them straight without burying any of the manure; but when the ridges are broad and raised in the middle, or any bare places that have been made so by the storms, I then summer-fallow the land, if I may use that expression, before I lay on the lime; but it almost as properly deserves the name of winter-fallow, for I give it the first ploughing in winter, when, on account of the stiffness of the sward and bent roots, I am obliged to take as large a furrow as four oxen, or four good horses, can draw to make it turn over.

In that state it lies all next summer, the following winter, and spring; for was it to be attempted sooner, which I have done, no plough, with ever so sharp irons, could cut it, to plough cross, as ploughing it in the same direction as first time, before the furrows get time to grow together, would make every one of them turn over whole. In the course of the second summer I get it reduced to a proper tilth, the ridges made straight, and the lime about 100 or 120 bolls per acre laid on, and sometimes spread and ploughed in; and sometimes I do not get the whole lime on until I get it on in time of frost, and then use it in the same way as when limed on the sward; which method I rather prefer, though my experience is not such as enables me to decide which is best. I have sometimes tried pease first after fallowing and liming, but never had a crop equal in value to the seed and labour, allowing only for one ploughing; and some gentlemen not far from me have tried it with no better success. I also sometimes give dung for the pease, after three crops of oats, and take here afterwards without any, which answers tolerably well; but I think it best to give the dung to the here.

You will be perhaps surprised that I mention nothing of wheat, beans, and barley. I have tried them all; and though I have had tolerable crops yet I am convinced that, in such a climate as Ayrshire, oats, grey pease, and here are more profitable. I should have mentioned that my land is a strong red clay. Besides lime, I have laid on, at different times, 300 or 400 tons of sea-shells, at the rate of 15 tons to the acre; but I think lime answers fully as well; and on one field of 20 acres, after treating it as already mentioned with the here crops, I harrowed in 860 bushels of horn shavings, and had a very indifferent crop. What effect they may have when the field is broke up again, I know not; but I shall not be in haste to purchase any more of them. Since the year 1769 I have laid on near 100,000 bolls of lime.

ESTATE OF KILKERRAN.

(Drawn up by the late Sir Adam Ferguson, Bart.)

With regard to this part of the country, if you never was in it before, you would, no doubt, observe much in general to find fault with—a great deal of land uncultivated, and the culture of other parts very imperfect. But if you had been here some years ago, and compare the state it was then in with that in which it is in now, you cannot fail to have remarked a very great alteration. To me, who remembers this country when there was scarce an enclosure in it but some few round the gentlemen's houses, when there was not a pound of grass seed sown in it from one end of it to the other, and when the whole attention of the farmer, and the whole dung of the farm, were applied to a few acres, while the rest was totally neglected, the difference is very striking.

With regard to myself, my object has been to have the farm in my possession into good grass as soon as possible; and the whole use I have made of the plough has been with a view to that. The trouble and expence that I have bestowed on this object has been much greater than any person would conceive from the quantity of ground that I have improved, without considering what it was in its natural state. You cannot have failed to observe the multitude of large stones upon the uncultivated fields in this country; most of these are of such a size that they require to be blasted with gunpowder before they are carried off. As the

soil runs naturally to wood, there is a necessity of clearing the fields of shrubs and bushes before they can be properly ploughed. If to this is added the expence of draining, you will not be surprised at my saying that many fields cost more than their original price before the plough is put into the ground. That particular field which you observed as sown down with grass this season, was, when I began with it, so remarkably covered with stones, as to make it a matter of wonder how the tenant could contrive to plough it at all; yet now there is not a stone upon it so large as your fist. After clearing the ground, my practice is to lime it on the grass; in doing which, we *compute* the lime laid on to about 100 bolls to the Scotch acre; though, as I have the lime within my own farm, and am not under the necessity of measuring it, as I should be were I to buy it, I cannot answer for the computation. I then take two crops of oats off it. The third year I fallow it carefully, and in the spring following dung it well, and sow it down with barley and grass seeds. Where the land is not intended for being continued in hay, the grass seeds I sow are ryegrass and white clover, which I cut down the first year, and afterwards throw it out into pasture. I am sensible that two crops of oats running is not the best husbandry; but oats being the hardiest grain, and answering better than any other, while the land is rough and not properly broke, it is for this reason that I follow the method I have mentioned. The only variations I have made are that sometimes I take a crop of pease instead of the second crop of oats; if the land is cleaner of stones than usual, I have sometimes sown turnips in the following year; and some once or twice I took wheat instead of barley the last year. But though that has answered with me, I do not approve of it, as the land is apt to become so stiff in the winter that it cannot be sufficiently opened in the spring to receive the grass seed without destroying the wheat. I sometimes also sow down with oats instead of barley.

I have mentioned to you that my object is to get my land as soon as possible into good grass. I am partly led to this from a desire to have as much dressed land round my house as I can. But, independent of this consideration, I am convinced it is better adapted to the climate of this country than tillage.

Though the land in Carrick (of which I wish all along to be understood to speak) is of a lighter nature than the other districts of Ayrshire, and in many places has a dry gravelly bottom, yet the rains in spring and harvest are very unfavourable for raising corn. It has, at the same time, such a tendency to grass that, except for the first and second year, provided it be made rich enough, it will shoot up pasture almost as good without sowing as with it. For these reasons, joined to the great steepness and irregularity of the surface, I consider grass and not corn to be the proper crop for this country.

With regard to cattle, of which a great number are bred for the English market in this country, they are pretty much the same as the Galloway breed, mostly *hummelled*. They are very hardily bred, being never in a house (except such as are intended for milk), and when put into good pasture, they rise to a great size.

With regard to sheep, of which a great number are bred in the high grounds, I am apt to believe that they are not so well understood as the black cattle. Considerable attention has, however, of late been bestowed on mending the breed of sheep. A number of gentlemen have brought in sheep from England, and the farmers are sensible of the importance of mending the breed by procuring good rams. I have, however, great doubts how far it even will be practicable to introduce the English sheep into our hills. In the low and sheltered grounds they answer very well, and the advantage, particularly with respect to the wool, is very great. But on the high and exposed mountains, I am persuaded they would not answer. The utmost length that I think we should be safe to go would be to raise our own breed by a mixture with the English; and even that should be done with caution.

The only part of your letter that remains unanswered is what relates to the tenants. Now although I have several tenants who deserve commendation for their industry and attention, yet I cannot say that there is any one who has made himself so remarkable as deserves being particularly mentioned. What I have said of the expense attending the improvement of land here will show how difficult it must be for any man, without a great stock, to carry it very far. But though I cannot name any tenant in particular, yet I can say in general that there is a remarkable alteration to the better, both in their knowledge and management since I began to attend to country affairs. Many of them had an aversion to have their lands enclosed; whereas now, no farmer, such as I would choose to have for a tenant, will take a lease unless the lands are enclosed; the consequence of which is, that if I live three or four years, every arable farm I have will be enclosed. They are

all getting into the practice, more or less, of sowing grass seeds; and instead of running out their lands by ploughing them up as soon as they were fit to produce a poor crop of corn, as was the practice formerly, they are now sensible of the importance of having them in good heart; and the distinction of croft and field land, except among some of the poorest sort, is, in a manner, entirely abolished.

NEWFIELD.

Greater variety in the practice of agriculture I have not met with than at Newfield; wheat, beans, broadcast and in drills, bere, oats, potatoes, turnip, and cabbages. It is difficult to say which of these do best, they are all so good, and the culture so well adapted to the different kinds. Of the different sorts of kail the curled stands the best. Mr Campbell, the proprietor, has studied farming, and conversed with many eminent improvers. To follow him accurately through such diversity of operation would indeed be instructive; but I must confine myself to a general view.

The soil in general is clay—some strong, some less so. Every field has a slope; and the ridges are formed in that direction, so as to leave little moisture that can do harm. He begins with breaking up the strong land from lea; and two crops of oats are taken in succession, not in hopes of a good return, but to rot the sward. A thorough summer-fallow succeeds, in order to reduce the surface and to level the ridges. If this be not sufficiently done in one year a second year's fallow is not grudged. The surface thus being sufficiently pulverised, lime is spread at the rate of 1000 bushels per acre, and carefully mixed with the soil by much harrowing. The ridges are then formed twelve feet broad, which is done by a single gathering. Dung is then given and turned in with a deeper furrow, which brings the lime up again to the surface. Wheat, bere, vetches, and oats have been taken in succession; but Mr Campbell prefers the following rotation:—Wheat; beans in drills three feet asunder, or broadcast where the land is perfectly clean. As soon as the beans are removed a ploughing then takes place to prepare the ground for wheat. If that crop be prevented by a fall of rain bere is sown next season. In every case grass seeds go along. As pasture is chiefly intended after wheat, the seeds are 12 lbs. white clover and four bushels natural hay seed. Where bere is the crop, 18 lbs. red clover is sowed on an acre, which is cut for green food, or made into hay; and, after twice ploughing, wheat is sowed, which finishes the rotation, or a crop of oats if the wheat be prevented by rain. If I might presume to find fault with the practice of this accomplished improver, it would be to observe that 4 bushels of broadcast, and 3 in drills, is too little seed; and that six bushels would answer much better. I took the liberty to suggest to Mr Campbell that his crop, though a good one, was too thin. Beans suffer much where the plants are so thin as not to support and shelter one another. Where they grow thin, wind makes a serious impression. Neither do I approve of two ploughings after clover for wheat—excepting only in a stiff clay soil.

After a drilled crop with turnip, barley, with grass seeds, follow. Where the land is intended for pasture, white clover and hay-seeds are sowed as above. Where hay or green food is intended, red clover is sowed. Wheat comes next, and oats finish the rotation.

Heavy land is ploughed with three horses in a line, and land more mellow with two, also in a line to prevent poaching. This makes a driver (or *gaudsman* necessary); but Mr Campbell thinks that he gains by the addition of a driver, supposing him alert enough to quicken the pace of the horses. Every operation depending on activity of servants will be expeditious in proportion to the activity of the master. This gentleman makes it a rule to be at the head of every thing himself.

He has tried trenching with the spade successfully. A field of water-fat land was every year flooded. It retained moisture, and was long of drying. It was trenched two spadings deep; and in trenching drains were made at the distance of every 12 yards, and filled with faggots, which effctually drained the whole. The first crop was oats which grew so vigorously as never to ripen. The second crop, bearing grass seeds, has a promising appearance. A wet meadow was laid dry by open drains. Slack lime spread on the surface improved the quality of the grass, and produced so much white clover as to make the pasture very rich.

This country is obliged to Mr Campbell in many respects, particularly for raising so much wheat, which is here far from being common. He finds great advantage from the bran, by giving it to his horses—two feeds a day, along with green clover—which enables them to go through more work. Cully's lambs and ewes

he has in perfection. He acknowleges that they will yield no profit unless on rich pasture. Their wool which is fit for combing, has increased in length since he got them, which shows the richness of his pasture. One fleece weighs 7lbs. Scotch weight, and gives 15s per stone—being 24lbs. English. The price is the higher because he never smears. The wool of 6 wedders, three years old, sold for 50s, and the four quarters of each weighed, in the shambles, 120lbs. English. Mr Campbell told me of a ewe hog, belonging to Mr William Anderson, tenant at Craig, that carried 21lbs. wool, English; an amazing quantity.

The Lancaster cows at this place are wearing out of request, from their giving little milk; Mr Campbell entertains high notions of Highland cows, as they give excellent milk; and I am of the same opinion. He attempted to improve the Lancaster kind as to their milk, by a cross with the Highland kind. The breed are handsome and thrive exceedingly; but give very little milk.

Rents in this district are high. I was told of a farm of 140 acres, whereof 20 not arable, let at 27s 6d per acre, and another at 25s This is a proof, not only of a rich soil, but that this country is not destitute of enterprising tenants.

THE AYRSHIRE SECTION

OF

"CALEDONIA,

OR

AN ACCOUNT HISTORICAL AND TOPOGRAPHIC OF NORTH BRITAIN,

FROM

THE MOST ANCIENT TO THE PRESENT TIMES,"

BY GEORGE CHALMERS, F.R.S. AND S.A., 1824:

ALSO,

THE STATISTICAL ACCOUNTS OF AYRSHIRE,

Drawn up from the Communications of the Ministers of the Different Parishes,

BY

SIR JOHN SINCLAIR, BART., 1796:

AND

THE NEW STATISTICAL ACCOUNT

1842.



CALEDONIA
AND STATISTICAL ACCOUNTS.

CHALMERS' CALEDONIA AND THE STATISTICAL ACCOUNTS.

[NOTE.—Chalmers' "Caledonia, or an account historical and topographic of North Britain from the most ancient to the present times" is probably one of the best and most reliable of all the local historian's handbooks. The scarcity of the older edition makes it impossible for the ordinary reader to enter upon its possession; and though a recent new edition has been placed on the market, the issue is so limited and the price so high that it is hardly more accessible than its progenitor.

George Chalmers was born at Fochabers, in Morayshire, in 1742. He came of good family. When he was twenty-one years of age he emigrated to America and practised as a lawyer in Baltimore. A strong Royalist, revolutionary troubles overtook him, and compelled his return to England where, in 1786, he was appointed clerk to the Board of Trade. His life, which terminated in 1825, was one of erudite toil. His "Caledonia," begun in 1807, was not completed until 1824. It is a work of immense research, and though, as has been said, its style "lacks elegance and dignity," it is nevertheless a monument to Chalmers' fame that is certain to prove enduring.

The first "Statistical Account of Scotland" was "drawn up from the communications of the ministers of the different parishes" by Sir John Sinclair, Bart., and was issued in a number of volumes towards the close of last century. The accounts were not geographically classified, and so far as we knew, those dealing with Ayrshire have never been produced in sequence until now. It has been deemed advisable to make the "Caledonia" the ground-work of the plan, and to supplement Chalmers' historical treatment of Ayrshire and its parishes, not only with the records so faithfully preserved by Sir John Sinclair, but, where necessary, with the parish accounts of the New Statistical Record, published in 1842. By this means we shall have succeeded in collecting a sufficiently complete history of the shire and of its parishes, down to the year 1842.

The Historical and Topographic Account of Ayrshire, with which this important section of our work opens, is that of Chalmers.

A word or two regarding Sir John Sinclair may not be out of place. He was one of the Sinclairs of Ulbster, a branch of the house of which the Earls of Caithness are the head, and was born at Thurso Castle in 1754. A landed proprietor, he was also an advocate, and for thirty years a member of Parliament, devoting his life to the improvement of agriculture, commerce, and finance, publishing numerous pamphlets, and establishing Societies—among others the British Wool Society and the Board of Agriculture. He held no fewer than twelve different offices, including the Colonelcies of two regiments raised at his own expense. He was a Privy Councillor. Sir John died in Edinburgh in 1835. The Statistical Account of Scotland has done for his memory what the "Caledonia" has done for that of Chalmers.]

OF AYRSHIRE.

OF ITS NAME.

The name of this county is plainly derived from the appelation of the shire town; and the town was so called undoubtedly from the very ancient Celtic name of the river, Ayr, on the banks whereof the shire town is situated. There is a river of the same original designation in England, in Switzerland, and in every country in Europe, saith Gebelin, in his *Monde Primitif*. *Air*, in the British speech, signifies brightness, lucidity; and *Aer* means violence, tumult; *Arw*, in the ancient Gaulish, signified rapid; so we have the *Arw* river in Herefordshire, and the river *Arw*, in Sligo, Ireland. There was probably a castle on the same site as that of the town; and under its protection, according to the practice of rude ages, a village arose. In 1197 there was founded a new town, between the Don and *Ayr* (Chronicles of Mel-

rose). It is a much more difficult question to answer, when the new-erected village on the *Ar* became the shire town; or, in other words, when the Celtic countries of Carrick, Kyle, and Cunningham were formed into a county.

[NOTE.—In Hearne's Liber Niger II., 382, there is a charter of Henry III. wherein he mentions "Quidum amicus et consanguineus noster *de Galweia*; viz., Duncanus, the father of Neil de Karric." This charter shews very clearly that Carrick was then described as in Galloway. In 1192, Duncan, the son of Gilbert de Galweia, gave to God and St. Mary of Mailros, a certain piece of land in Carric, called *Maybothel*. Chron. Mailros 179. In this charter we see no intimation of a shire.]

ITS SITUATION AND EXTENT.

This extensive shire lies along the Frith of Clyde, which washes its western shore, from Kelly-burn, on the north, to Galloway-burn, which enters Loch Ryan, on the south, for an extent of more than 70 miles. It is bounded on the north, and north-east, by the county of Renfrew; on the east, by the counties of Lanark and Dumfries; by the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, on the south-east; and on the south, by Wigtownshire. Ayrshire is situated between 54° 59′ 10″ and 55° 53′ 45″ north latitude; and from 4° 0′ 10″ to 4° 59′ 4″ longitude west of Greenwich.

[NOTE.—The county town of Ayr stands in 55° 27′ 52″ north latitude; and in 4° 36′ 30″ longitude, west of Greenwich.]

The length of Ayrshire, from the burn of Galloway, on the south, to Kelly-burn, on the north, is at least 70 miles, with rather a disproportionate breadth of from 25 to 5 miles. The whole county contains a superficies of 1040 square miles, or 665,600 statute acres.

[NOTE.—Of this extent the division of Kyle contains 403 miles; that of Carrick, 393, and that of Cunningham, 244 square miles.]

In 1821, Ayrshire, containing 1040 square miles, was inhabited by 128,500 souls (including 1201 seamen, who were not comprehended in the population returns of 1821), being 123·55 to a square mile. The 128,500 people composed 26,645 families, who inhabited 17,842 houses; being 4·82 in each family, and 7·20 persons in each house.

Such then is the situation, the extent, and the population of Ayrshire!

Ayrshire was, in Celtic times, divided into three large divisions; Carrick, lying on the southern side of the Doon; Kyle, between the rivers of Doon and Irvine, and is subdivided into King's Kyle, lying on the south, and Kyle Stewart on the northward of the river of Ayr; and the third Celtic division is Cunningham, which comprehends the whole country on the north of the river of Irvine. Whatever may have been the ancient authorities, corresponding with these divisions, they were superseded by the statute, abolishing the hereditary jurisdictions.

OF ITS NATURAL OBJECTS.

Whether the superficies of Ayrshire consist the most of mountains or of plains cannot easily be settled, as the whole surface consists of alternations of hills and dales. Along the shores of the frith, there lie narrow plains, with gravel overabounding; at some distance, eastward, as the eye looks upward, nothing is perceived but hill after hill, which are covered, not with the darksome russet, but with the lively green. The system of the several kinds of soil in Ayrshire may be estimated in this manner:—

Of clay soil, ...	...	261,960
Of sand, or light soil,	...	120,110
Of moss, and moor lands,	...	283,530
Total of statute acres,	...	665,600

Yet none of the mountains of Ayrshire rise to extraordinary height. This extensive shire abounds in hillocks and hills, but not in mountains.

[NOTE.—The highest mountains in the county are Misty Law, on the north-east limits of Cunningham; Cairn Table, on the eastern border of Kyle; and the Cairn of Shalloch, in Carrick.]

Of minerals, this shire may be said to abound in the most useful, though every parish cannot hope to enjoy every good. Coal is so generally abundant that canals, and railways, and harbours have been formed for its export.

[NOTE.—It appears from the evidence of charters that in the burrow-lands of Torbolton, coal had been wrought since 1497 A.D.]

There are almost everywhere limestone, and ironstone, and indeed every sort of stone, particularly freestone and whinstone; marble has been found, and black lead has been discovered, as well as gypsum and marle. Near Wallacetown there is a quarry of black fire-proof stone, which is carried into the neighbourhood and abroad for making ovens. On the river Ayr

there is a quarry of whet-stones, which have been exported in great numbers. Near the same place has been discovered copper and antimony. Lead has been found, but not brought to any valuable account by the operations of manufacture and traffic. In such a country there must exist many petrifactions.

In the midst of so many minerals, it was to be expected that there would be many springs impregnated by them; and of course almost every parish has its appropriate mineral water, some whereof is used by the lower orders; but none of them seems to have risen to the dignity of a *spa*; nor have they anywhere collected numerous persons of every rank, either for their health or amusement.

From such considerations it is easy to diverge to the waters of this shire. There are found on its devious surface many lochs, but few of them are of any magnitude, though some of them certainly are the sources of rivers. (The largest lake in the county is Loch Doon, in Carrick, which is five miles long and about threequarters of a mile broad). From the hills, and hillocks, of Ayrshire spring many rivulets, which, conjoining their kindred waters as they flow, form streams, which contribute to the elegance and use of the country. But, as the eastern heights lie at no great distance from the shore of the Frith of Clyde, none of the rivers, such as the Ayr, the Irvine, the Doon, the Girvan, and Stinchar convey a large volume of water to the sea; and although none of them afford interior navigation, they all supply an adequate quantity of fish; yet several of the streams, which find their issues in Galloway, Dumfries, and Lanark, have their fountain-heads in the Ayrshire hills, and thus may be considered as their parent springs.

OF ITS ANTIQUITIES.

Under this head, the original people and their appropriate speech, certainly, supply the most curious topics of archæological research. The country, lying along the Frith of Clyde, which forms the superficies of this great shire, was originally settled by the same tribes which colonised every part of Northern Britain.

[NOTE.—The names of waters, and places, which still remain, and which are apparent to the judicious eye, on the map of the shire, form demonstrations of the fact, after every corruption of ignorance and blunder of inattention.]

At the epoch of the Roman invasion of this country in 80 A.D. the great tribe of the Damnii inhabited the whole country, from the ridge of hills which separate Galloway from Ayrshire, on the south, to the river Ern, on the north, comprehending all Strathcluyd, the shires of Ayr, Renfrew, and Stirling, with districts of Dumbarton and Perth.

Owing to the want or the obscurity of remains, it has long been supposed that the Romans, with all their energy and perseverance, had never penetrated into Wigtonshire, much less into Ayrshire. But time and chance have at length discovered the Roman camp of *Rispain*, near Whithern, and adjoining the plantations of Glasserton,

The Roman road, after traversing Dumfriesshire, throughout the vale of the Cairn Water, by Conrig, to the top of Glencairn, passed, from Dumfries-shire, into the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright. It now coursed, through Dalry parish, to the farm of Holm, in Carsfairn parish, whence it proceeded, across the ridge of Polwhat, to the north-west extremity of this parish, where it left the Stewartry and entered Ayrshire; it now went forward to Dalmelington in this county, with a view to the Clyde.

Departing from Dalmelington for two miles, this road forms what is called the bridle-road to Littlemill; it then strikes off from the Littlemill way to the farm of Burnhead, and passes through Chapmeknows, Pennasson, Smithston, and Cube. In the four first-mentioned farms it is only seen in detached pieces, but in *the Cube* it is *quite entire* for a long distance. It then goes through the farm of Boreland, and on the north side of the Boreland Burn it is seen in several detached places, from whence it passes over the Mains-hill, and about a mile further on it pushes right through the farm of *the Causeway*, which is supposed to have taken its name from the circumstance of this road running through it. From the Causeway it is seen quite plain all the distance to Percluan Mill, in one continued line, which is obviously more than a mile. The Roman road now passes through the farms of Brae, Lindsayston, Cockhill, and Whitestanes, but it is only seen in small detached pieces in those farms where the ground has not been tilled. There is an old man, however, that is called Tinnock, who lives near Cockhill, and who said that, about forty years ago, a great deal of this road was raised to make room for the plough, and he pointed out where the road was raised and the purposes to which the stones were applied. Within half a mile of the town of Ayr on this route there is a place called *The Foul Causeway*, which, being in a straight line from Cockhill to Ayr, must have been a part of the Roman road, but no one

could remember of any causeway being there. Some old people in the neighbourhood call this road *The Picts' Road*, and others, *The Roman Way;* but the construction of the pavement, in the Roman manner, of this remain evinces clearly that it was a Roman road.

The Romans, having had such a road, must necessarily have had encampments through which it passed, yet no Roman camp has been discovered in Ayrshire. Their trinkets have been found in various parts of this extensive shire. They had erected their villas along the fine shore of the Clyde-frith, from Kelley-burn to Irvine, and on this coast the remains of their baths have been discovered, where so many bathing establishments have been recently formed.

The abdication of the Roman Government left the Damnii in the possession of their ancient domains, without much change in their manners and habits, and still less in their knowledge and speech. In the unsettled state of society which ensued, there appear to have been made, by a people who were less skilful than the Romans, ramparts and ditches and other fences of whatever use and by whatever names, in Galloway, in Dumfries, in Pebbles, Selkirk, and in Berwick-shires, though by whose hands performed and for what purpose established is yet unexplained. In Ayrshire there still remains what is there called *A Feal Dyke*, which has been carried from the Cairnwin-burn to the water of Duisk, throughout a distance of five or six miles. As the dimensions of this dyke are uncommonly large, it is supposed by intelligent men in that country to have formed a dividing line between the pasturages of the hills above and the cultivated lands below on the river Stinchar. (The public owe a debt of gratitude, and I a favour, to Mr Hamilton of Pinmore, through whose lands this dyke runs, for the communication of this singular remain.)

The earliest intrusion of settlers among the descendants of the Damnii were the successors of the Scoto-Irish colonists, who easily passed the Frith of Clyde from the opposite peninsula of Cantyre some ages after the settlement of their fathers in that appropriate cradle of the Scottish aborigines.

[NOTE.—From the Roman authors we might learn that the Scots often invaded the Roman province, sometimes by themselves, but oftener with their associate Picts, the true descendants of the original British planters in Northern Britain. Yet there is not either fact or authority which could satisfy any reasonable doubts whether the Scots inhabited any part of Great Britain till after the commencement of the sixth century. Ireland was the proper country of the Scots till recent times, as we might even learn from Bede. The Picts or their progenitors were undoubtedly the original settlers of this country.]

Congenial colonists from Ireland may have, probably, settled along the eastern shores of the Clyde, amidst the ancient people, in after ages, and the two lineages of men, speaking analogous tongues, and having the same manners, would easily coalesce with the descendants of the original Damnii.

[NOTE.—The language of the ancient maps of Ayrshire evinces the fact, while it equally shews, that there was no Gothic race settled here till much more recent times. The Gaelic tongue continued to be spoken here during the age of Buchanan, who states the fact.]

CHALMERS' CALEDONIA AND THE STATISTICAL ACCOUNTS.

The next most ancient objects of antiquary research are the *stone monuments*, which, indeed, are fewer in Ayrshire than could have been expected (and yet we are told that there are to be found large cairns, in many places. Stat. Account). Some of the cairns have been removed by the husbandmen, during recent ages, when "the gray heaps" were discovered to be the hallowed sepulchres of ancient chiefs. But of the vast erections of large stones, the remains and monuments of the Druids, there are very few or none. In Galston parish, indeed, there is said to be a *Druid temple*, consisting of a cairn of gray stones, which is 60 feet in diameter. (Stat. Account. In Sorn parish there is a large cairn of stones, 250 feet in circumference, and 10 feet high; yet, there is nothing in this of Druidism). But this is not that sort of vast erection, which is called a *Druid temple*, and is merely the burying place of some ancient clan; and this observation is equally applicable to the very large cairn in Sorn parish. It is certainly possible that there may have been, during very early times, real temples of the Druids, which may have, probably, been destroyed by the first Scoto-Irish settlers, who were Christians, with more zeal than knowledge; or the stones may have been appropriated by those barons who built towers, and castles, during feudal times and a wretched government.

Next to those stone monuments are the *oval* and *circular encampments*, which are mentioned as existing in various parts of Ayrshire (Stat.

Account). These were probably the fortlets of the British Damnii, long before the Saxon people had arrived on our shores, and before the Danish rovers were known on the coasts of the Baltic. The British circular encampments were succeeded by the Roman right angular entrenchments; but of Roman labours, there is little to be seen, or said, within the extensive boundaries of Ayrshire. From the recollection of the battle of Largs, in 1263, when Haco was repulsed by Alexander III., the antiquaries of the shire are too apt to attribute every remain, which cannot easily be accounted for, to Danish hands. At Torbolton, the Danes are even said to have had a permanent settlement; but Torbolton is five miles from the sea (Stat. Account), and the Danes, who were sea-rovers generally, had their stations at some convenient harbour, with an impregnable rock for their shelter. As 795 A.D. is the epoch of the earliest notice of the Vikings, in the northern regions, what lineage of mankind was it, who were the genuine authors of the stone monuments, whose existence are beyond the commencement of our era?

The ruined castles, and towns, which seem to abound in Ayrshire, form a very different class of antiquities, and which may be considered as much more modern. They were mostly all built, as we have indicated, while the feudal lords were strong, and the King's officers were weak, some time after the epoch of 1097, throughout the Scoto-Saxon period, ending in 1306. The most memorable of all these ruined castles is that of Turnberry, which, as the seat of the Earls of Carrick, might be regarded as the chief seat of the Earldom. It stands on a small promontory, on the shore of the frith of Clyde. It was the scene, on the 20th of September, 1286, of the first association of nobles of which the Scottish history knows anything; they assembled on that occasion, and associated, for supporting the title of the competitor, Bruce, to the crown. It was retaken, by assault, by his grandson, Robert Bruce; and being then ruined, it has not since been inhabited. (Grose has given, in his Antiquities of Scotland, II., a sketch of the ruins of Turnberry Castle). The castle of Dundonald became the retreat of Robert II., after his retirement from government, upon the death of James, Earl Douglas, at Otterburn, in 1388. Sorn castle is memorable for the long sojourn of that extraordinary woman Margaret, the daughter of the first Earl of Stair, and the widow of Hugh, Earl of Loudon, who lived here till her ninety-ninth year, the ornament and delight of Ayrshire. The other ruined castles in this shire may have frequently been the joyous scenes of hospitable hilarity; but now the pipe and the dance are seldom heard in their halls.

OF ITS ESTABLISHMENT AS A SHIRE.

This great sheriffdom was formed, during latter ages, of *Carrick*, *Kyle*, and *Cunningham*. Carrick was dismembered from Galloway by William the Lion in 1186. (Hearne's Liber Niger II., 382. From this we might infer that Carrick was still considered, in England, as a part of Galloway; and see Chron. Mailros, 179). It is, indeed, more than probable that Ayrshire had not, in these early times, been formed into a regular sheriff-wick; the three divisions being then ruled by three bailiffs. Marcow Mac Kennedy was judge under the Earl of Carrick, during the reign of Alexander II. (Hay's Vindication, 103; Chart. Mail. No. 131). In the subsequent reign Rolland de Carrick was confirmed as the head of his clan, and the leade of the men thereof, and as baillie of the Earldom of Carrick (Crawf-Chancellors, 21). The government of Kyle belonged, by heritable right, to the Campbells of Loudon, as bailiffs thereof. (Hol. Camden, 21). The great family of the Morvilles were hereditary bailiffs of Cunningham. The epoch of the first Sheriff of Ayr is 1221, when Reginald de Crawford executed that office and transmitted it to his heirs. (Hugh, his son, succeeded Reginald, and was Sheriff about 1255. He was succeeded by another Reginald, who was slain by the English garrison of Ayr in 1297 Douglas, Peer, 431.) The office was now involved in the competition for the crown, between Bruce, and Balliol, and of Edward I., for the sovereignty. Robert Bruce, the son of old Robert, the competitor, and in his wife's right, Earl of Carrick, resigned the earldom, in 1293, to his son Robert, who requested the King, Balliol, to receive his homage. It was answered that, by the laws of Scotland, the Sovereign must have seisine before he can receive homage. Young Bruce resigned to the King whatever seisine he had. The *Sheriff* of Ayr was ordered to take seisine of the earldom of Carrick, for the King, and to *extend* the lands. Godfrey de Ros was, now, appointed the first sheriff, by Edward I. He was Sheriff of Ayr in 1305. He was governor of Ayr for the English King in 1333.

Sir Reginald Crawford, who expired by a violent death in 1297, left his heritable office and a daughter, Susan, his heiress; and she marrying Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochow, conferred on him the office in her right. Their son, Sir Andrew Campbell, had the misfortune

to be taken prisoner with David II. in 1346. This family now lost the office for a time. In 1406 William de Cunningham was then Sheriff of Ayr. There was a grant, however, to George Campbell in May, 1450, of this office to him and to his heirs. In April, 1503, this office was held by Sir Hugh Campbell of Loudon; he was Sheriff in 1533, and died in 1561. His son, Sir Matthew, succeeded to the office, and died about the year 1572. His son, Sir Hugh, who succeeded to this office, was made a Lord of Parliament in 1601. He was alive in 1612; but, dying soon after, was succeeded by his granddaughter, Margaret, as Baroness of Loudon; but she marrying Sir John Campbell of Lawers, the notorious Chancellor of Scotland, during the Civil Wars of Charles I., the office of Sheriff was sold to the Crown for 1500 marks, so that it became thus invested in the King.

[NOTE.—It was given to James Chalmers of Gadgirth, who was certainly Sheriff of Ayr in July, 1633. Wood's Peer. 147: the Earl of Loudon, by a contract with the King, dated the 10th of March, 1634, sold to His Majesty the Sheriffship of Ayr for 14,000 marks Scots.]

In 1747 John, Lord London, obtained, for his life, in this office of Sheriff 1500l. (He was made Sheriff in 1632, when the Crown acquired the heritable jurisdiction from the Lord Loudon.) Under the new establishment, after the prudent abolition of the heritable jurisdiction, William Duff of Crombie was appointed Sheriff of Ayr in 1748 at a salary of 200l. a year. (So that this office was now purchased a second time, and the Earl recovered, for his life, in this office much more in 1747 than had been paid in 1634 for its perpetuity.)

It may be of use here to say a few words with regard to the jurisdictions which might have interfered with the authority of the Sheriff. The ancient divisions of this great country forming Ayrshire were, as we have seen, Carrick, lying on the south of the Doon; Kyle, lying between the rivers Doon and Irvine, and sub-divided into King's Kyle and Kyle Stewart; and Cunningham, lying on the northward of the Irvine river. All those great divisions were ruled, even after the establishment of the shire, by baillies, who, in many points, acted as Sheriffs. We may see, in the dispute between Ayr and Irvine as to their commercial privileges, that Robert II. directed the baillie of Cunningham to call an *inquest* for settling the facts; and accordingly the inquest found in favour of the privileges which were claimed by Irvine. The Act for abolishing heritable jurisdictions put an end to such authorities, and in lieu thereof the Sheriff's Court came in place of the whole, and is allowed to be a very respectable jurisdiction in our own times. The commissary of Glasgow indeed holds a court to a limited extent, which extends over all Ayrshire, in competition with the Sheriff's, being a cumulative jurisdiction. The Justices of the Peace hold courts generally once a month at all the principal towns within the shire, which are of great importance to the country. The royal burghs, and the burghs of barony, have all limited jurisdictions, which are of some use, within their usual limits. Ayr and Irvine are the royal burghs; the burghs of barony are Kilmarnock, Maybole, Saltcoats, Newton-upon-Ayr, Girvan, Mauchline, Kilmaurs, Newmilns, Kilbirnie, Cumnock, and Prestwick, which, as they act under the control of the Court of Session, very seldom extend their several jurisdictions beyond their appropriate limits.

OF ITS CIVIL HISTORY.

Ayrshire was originally settled by the same British people who colonised England from the nearest coast of Gaul. With the enterprise which was natural to the earliest tribes, the Gaelic people of England first planted Scotland and Ireland, so that the three British nations were originally derived from the same Gaelic source during prior ages to the first appearance of the Gothic colonists in Europe.

The great tribe of the British Damnii, both before and after the intrusion of the Romans on Northern Britain towards the end of the first century, inhabited the ample bounds of Ayrshire, with the neighbouring districts. They long continued to hunt the game and to feed their flocks in the vales and upon the hills of the diversified district, notwithstanding the Roman inroad. Such were the occupations of the descendants of the Damnii, even before the sixth century of our common era. They may have, indeed, been sometimes disturbed by inroads from the south before they were disturbed by the invasion of the Scots from Ireland. But it was in subsequent ages that the Scottish colonists from Ireland made lasting settlements among the British people of this district. Those colonists were soon followed by similar emigrations of the same Scottish people, both from Ireland and Kintyre, in latter times, who easily amalgamated with the ancient settlers, as they spoke an analagous tongue and practised congenial manners. In 681 A.D. the old British inhabitants repulsed an invasion of the Cruithne from Ireland at Machlin, according to the Ulster annals. In 750 the Northumbrian Eadbert seems to have traversed Nithsdale, and to have

seised upon *Kyle*, according to the chronicle in Bede. (The language of those Northumbrians may still be traced on the map of Ayrshire.)

Till the eighth century, the Danish Vikings, or sea rovers, confined their odious hostilities to the Baltic and its kindred shores. But in 789 the Vikings were first distinctly seen on the eastern coasts of England. In 795 these Danish rovers originally infested the shores of Ireland and of Albany. They were not felt on the Caledonian shores till the ninth century. There is very little foundation, then, for the local antiquaries of Ayrshire, who attribute every ancient remain and every doubtful circumstance to the roving Danes, who seldom settled within the invaded country. The sea rovers may have had, during the eleventh century, one or two strong fortlets on the rocky cliffs of Wigtonshire; but there is no evidence that they ever had any settlement within the Frith of Clyde, on the shores of Ayr. Yet, their frequent invasions of Ireland may have been the cause of many emigrations from that island to Galloway, and to its sister country Ayrshire.

At length was this country invaded by a very different people from the Danish Vikings; Alpin, the King of the Scoto-Irish in Kintyre, who appears to have perceived the weakness of his neighbours on the south-eastern side of the Clyde, and whose ambition, perhaps, may have *prompted* him to desire to rule over a richer people, and a more extensive territory than his own. In 839 A.D.. Alpin landed, with his Scoto-Irish followers, in the Bay of Ayr: and he immediately began, according to the odious practice of a wretched age, to lay waste the country between the Ayr and Doon, before the people and their chiefs could meet him in conflict, Following the course of the last of those rivers, without opposition, he advanced towards Dalmelington. Here was he opposed by a body of men, with their chiefs, who appeared unwilling to resign their country without a struggle. During a sharp contest was Alpin slain and his followers defeated, near the site of Laicht Castle, which derived its peculiar name from the Stone of Alpin, in the parish of Dalmellington and within the extensive boundaries of Galloway.

[NOTE.—The Chronicle of Dumblane mentions Alpin fil Hearted, 3 an. regnavit rex et occisus est in *Galwithia*. Wyntown concurs with this notice by saying that Alpin was slain in *Galloway*. The foundation charter of the town of Ayr, by William, in 1197, when describing the limits of its exclusive trade, calls for Lacht-Alpin, the stone, or grave, of Alpin. There is a tradition in the country that a battle had been here fought in former times. Near the town of Dalmelington there are a number of cairns or tumuli, which indicate that a battle had been fought on this site.]

The whole circumstances which are connected with this transaction are interesting to the people of Ayrshire. They shew that the country then formed a part of Galloway; that the inhabitants spoke the Gaelic tongue, that, from the gallant spirit with which the people and their chiefs opposed Alpin, the King of Kintyre, who fell in the conflict, a revolution was produced.

Kenneth M'Alpin, the son of the demised king, succeeded him in 836 A.D.; and in 843, became also the King of the Picts. The fortune, the valour, the policy of Kenneth, enabled him, without much bloodshed, to become the sovereign of the Scots and Picts, united into *one State*. This event produced the suppression of the various tribes in every part of North Britain, and formed the whole into one people, in 843 A.D. Whatever may have been the effects, from the resentment of Kenneth, for the death of his father, the people of this great district henceforth formed an important portion of a united people, and an integral part of a considerable kingdom.

Throughout the Scotish period, extending from 843 A.D. to 1097, the inhabitants of Ayr were governed, as a Celtic people, upon Celtic principles, which were not very favourable to peace, or very promotive of prosperity. In addition to the domestic feuds of an irascible people, they were too frequently disquieted during that period by the appearance of the Danish rovers in the frith of Clyde, which was not crowded, for ages, with commercial shipping. A feeble system, and a weak government, did not, by any means, ensure the comfort of the people.

During the change which ensued upon the accession of Edgar, in 1097, when the Scoto-Saxon period began, different maxims of law and new modes of government were introduced. The people of this district were benefitted by the alteration of a system which was radically bad. The introduction of the municipal law produced the change of the Celtic maxims, and rude customs, for the Anglo-Norman principles, and more salutary laws. The jurisprudence of Scotland was not only changed; but an active colonization began, which filled every district with a new people from England, with different

habits and new practices. The castles were now begun to be built; the towns were inhabited by more mercantile inhabitants. The Gaelic people of Ayrshire had adopted Christianity as their religion, even before their settlement in this country. But churches were at length built, and religious houses were established amidst a prejudiced people. It was by these operations that villages began around both, which are now filled with busy tradesmen. We must not, however, suppose that these various changes and improvements altered the nature and habits of such a people in a week, a month, or a year. At the end of five centuries from 1097, the Gaelic language was still spoken in Ayrshire. It was not till the year 1221, A.D., as we have seen, that the new system of the administration of law and government was introduced here, by the appointment of a sheriff.

[NOTE.—In this period the men of Carrick entered into an obligation that they would side with the King of Scots, against all men. Ayloff's Calend.]

Of the peerage of Scotland, consisting of thirteen Earls, which sat, or might have sitten, in the great parliament, at Brigham, 1287-90, Robert de Brus, Earl of Carrick, was the only noble from Ayrshire. (Twelve Earls actually sat in that Parliament. The Earl of Fife, being an infant, was not present.) When the great restorer of the monarchy, by a native of that district, became fixed in the Scottish throne, the earldom of Carrick merged in the crown. Two centuries elapsed before any other earl did honour to Ayrshire, when Hugh Montgomery was created Earl of Eglinton, in 1503, and David Lord Kennedy, Earl of Cassillis, in 1509. They were followed, in more recent times, by other nobles, who derived their titles, and residency, from the localities of Ayrshire.

The first great colonist, during the Scoto-Saxon period, who acquired lands in this country, was Hugh Morvill, who came into Scotland under David I.; became constable of Scotland; and acquired a grant of Cunningham. Under him settled, as his vassals, many persons from England. The progenitor of the family of Loudon was a vassal of the Morvilles; the Cunninghams, whose name was local, were vassals of the Morvilles; Warnebold, from the north of England, obtained, from Richard Morville, a grant of the manor of Cunningham, in the parish of Kilmaurs. The numerous family of the Rosses also settled here in a similar manner. Steven, the son of Richard, obtained from Richard Morville some lands in Cunningham, to which he gave the name of *Stevens-tun*, which is now known by the name of *Stevenstown*. In this manner, then, were new inhabitants introduced in every part of Ayrshire, who, acquiring lands among the Gaelic people, settled themselves, and induced others to sit down under them, as vassals, according to the system of subinfeudation.

The family of Montgomery, who, as earls of Eglinton, has long acted a splendid and important part in Ayrshire, originally settled in Renfrew, from Shropshire, under holdings, as vassals of Walter, the son of Allan, the last of the Stewarts, who owned their origin to the same shire. Crawfurd, who was created Viscount of Garnock, in 1703, was of a family who settled, early, in the west of Scotland, yet came but recently into Ayrshire.

The Cunninghams, who were created lords of Kilmaurs, in Ayrshire, and Earls of Glencairn, in Dumfries, during 1488, were originally but vassals of the Morvilles in Cunningham, whence they derived a distinguished name. The first of the family of Loudon who obtained the earldom, in 1633, were only vassals of the Morvilles. The Campbels, who by marriage came into this family, and acquired that title, were formerly of Argyle, where they were not very ancient.

[NOTE.—As early, however, as 1498 a feud existed between Hugh Campbell of Loudon, the Sheriff of Ayr, and Sir William Colville of Uchiltre. In 1498 the King granted an exemption to Sir William Colville of Uchiltre, knight, and to his tenants and servants, from the jurisdiction of Hugh Campbell of Loudon, the Sheriff of Ayr, and his deputies, because it was notoriously known tha there is a deadly feud betwixt them.—Privy Seal Reg. I. 39. We thus see the origin of the feuds in Ayrshire, which had a long continuance.]

The Boyds, who acquired the earldom of Kilmarnock in 1661, cannot show very distinctly either the origin of their name or their family. Sir Robert Boyd of Giruan, and Ryak, near Irvine, was a witness to an agreement, in 1205, between that town and Bryce of Eglintoun; but it was Robert Boyd, the son of Sir Alexander Boyd, who was created Lord Boyd by James V. in 1536, and afterwards acquired many lands from the Regent Arran during the minority of Mary Queen of Scots.

[NOTE.—There remain, in the Hamilton archives, two indentures relative to this Robert, Lord Boyd, dated the 12th March, 1548-9. The Regent promised to be a true friend to Boyd and his heirs, as their lord and master, in

consideration of their perpetual subjection to the Regent and his heirs as their men and servants. In June, 1547, Robert Lord Boyd assassinated Sir Neil Montgomery of Lainshaw in a feud, for which it appears that Boyd was not hanged, as he received, in 1547, a remission for the slaughter of Neil Montgomery, and he died a few years after.]

Lord Boyd is said to have acted uniformly in favour of the Queen. But while *his master*, the Duke of Chattelherault, rebelled against the Queen's marriage with Darnley, Boyd followed his example. After the Duke had been pardoned, on condition of retiring from Britain, Boyd acted with the Queen. Hamilton, one of the lower branches of the Hamilton family, who were themselves but recent inhabitants of Scotland, was created Lord Bargeny in 1639 without adding anything to the early population of Northern Britain. Lord Kennedy, who was created Earl of Cassillis in 1509, was undoubtedly of an Irish origin. The Kennedies, and MacKennedy, acted as Judges of Carrick, under the Earls thereof, during the reign of Alexander II. But, long after the earldom had merged in the Crown, and the office of Judge became superseded by that of Sheriff, the Kennedies became earls themselves. The Colvils and the Stewarts, who were successively created Lords Ochiltree, contributed very little to the population of Ayrshire. Sir William Cochran was created Earl of Dundonald in 1669, but whatever may have been the antiquity of this name, either as Cochran or Couchran, there was none of them sat in the great Parliament of Brigham, either as Peers or Commoners, in 1289-90; neither were there any persons, clergy or layman, from Ayrshire in that Parliament but Robert de Brus, Earl of Carrick, and the Abbot of Kilwynnan. Whence we may infer that there were few eminent barons or country-gentlemen who then resided in Ayrshire; or they were perhaps unwilling to attend such a Parliament. There are but few indeed who, soon after, swore fealty to Edward, and who are mentioned in Ragman's Roll. There were no Montgomeries then in Ayrshire; they were then of Eaglesham, in Renfrew. There was Reginald de Crawford, who was then the chief of Loudon; Ranulph de Eglinton, who was the progenitor of Sir Hugh Eglinton, who became eminent under David II. and Robert II., and whose only daughter carried two great estates to the Montgomeries; Godfrey de Ardrossan, who was apparently the progenitor of the family of Ardrossan. William Kerr is supposed to be the progenitor of the Kerrs of Kerrsland. Robert de la Chambre is said to be the ancestor of Chalmer of Gadsgirth. Neil, the son of Robert de Dunlop, is considered as the progenitor of the Dunlops of that country. The fact is that Ayrshire in that age was merely a Gaelic country, whose chiefs did not affect the honour of holding their lands by feudal titles, like the Highland chiefs of much more recent times.

The Crichtons, who were created Viscounts of Ayr in 1622, and Earls of Dumfries in 1633, were unknown, either in the one shire or the other, at that memorable era. The Dalrymples, who, in 1703, acquired the earldom of Stair, were latterly men of great talents, though this circumstance adds nothing to their antiquity or to the colonization of Ayr.

After Ayrshire had been filled with the eminent men of a very different lineage, as well as habits and manners, Haco, King of Norway, came into the Clyde with a large fleet. He landed his Norwegians at Largs, in Cunningham, on whatever pretences of plunder or conquest; but Alexander III. brought against him an army full as hardy, valorous, and patriotic, as the Norwegians; and on the 2nd of October, 1263, a fierce conflict ensued, when the invaders were driven to their ships with considerable loss. A storm arose, which dispersed the Norwegian fleet, while Haco found a retreat, and a grave, in Orkney.

[NOTE.—The ground whereon this battle was fought, was let on building leases during recent times, when the graves of the slain were discovered. In one of these were found among the bones, 13 pieces of silver, some whereof were carved, and no doubt served as ornaments of dress—Edin. Even. Courant, 5th December, 1813.]

The competition for the crown, by Robert de Brus, after the demise of Alexander III., without male heirs, and the failure of his female heirs, introduced some of the intrigue, and many of the conflicts into Ayrshire. It was the son of the competitor, Robert de Brus, who married Margaret, the Countess of Carrick, and thereby became Earl of Carrick in her right; and it was their son, Robert, who, upon the death of his grandfather, and father, as well as the expulsion of Baliol, formed pretensions to the crown, which he obtained by his fortitude and prudence. Ayrshire, we thus see, had the honour of giving birth to the illustrious restorer of the Scottish monarchy. With a view to the succession of Bruce the elder, Thomas de Clare joined with Richard de Burg, the Earl of Ulster, in 1286, in that solemn compact, saith Dugdale, made between

them two, on the one part, and Patrick Earl of Dunbar, together with his three sons, Patrick, John, and Alexander, Walter Stewart, Earl of Monteith, Alexander, and John, his sons, Robert Bruce, lord of Annandale, together with Robert Bruce, the Earl of Carrick, and Bernard de Bruce, James, Stewart of Scotland, and John his brother, Enegus, the son of Donevald, and Alexander his son, that they would thenceforth adhere to, and take part with one another, upon all occasions, against all persons whatsoever; saving their allegiance to the King of England, and their fidelity to him who should gain the Kingdom of Scotland, by right of blood, from Alexander, then lately deceased; which agreement, continues Dugdale, who had the autograph before him, bears date at *Turnebyrie*, in Carrick, on the eve of St Matthew, the Apostle. An. 1286. As the first association among the Scottish nobles, this is a very curious document, and as executed at Turnebyrie is interesting to Ayrshire.

Some of the singular exploits of the immortal Wallace, in supporting the national independence, were performed in Ayrshire, from which it derives additional honour, as well as advantage.

The Scottish barons, without consulting Wallace, submitted to Edward I. at Irvine, on the 9th July, 1297. The English king, considering Ayrshire to be the residence, and the resource, of Bruce, made great efforts to secure it. In July, 1298, Bruce, on hearing of the loss of the battle of Falkirk, burnt the Castle of Ayr. Here, we may perceive, an early example of Bruce's favourite axioms of warfare, that such a Kingdom was not to be gained or retained by fortlets.

[NOTE.—See in Walter Hemingford, for many of the hesitations, and much of the tergiversation, of Bruce, before he finally resolved to avow his pretensions to the crown. He was crowned on the 27th of March, 1306.]

After various defeats by a too powerful enemy, Bruce found a retreat in the north of Ireland. From Rachrin, he soon passed to the isle of Arran; and from thence crossed the Frith to Turnberry Castle, where he surprised the English in their cantonments in February 1306-7; yet was he constrained to find his shelter among the hills. Here, however, he did not remain long. Having collected his followers, he defeated Aymer de Valance, at Loudon-hill, on the 10th of May 1307; as we learn from Barbour. Three days after, Bruce defeated Ralf de Monthermer, and obliged him to look for safety to Ayr-Castle, which the conquerer blockaded for a while; but, on the approach of succours, he was obliged to retire.

After many a conflict, and much disappointment, the victory of Bannockburn left none of the English force to contend with Bruce; and the treaty of Northampton acknowledged the independence of Scotland, with the never-to-be-forgotten Bruce for the legitimate King. The most important point, which now remained, was declaring the succession to the Crown, that had been thus long fought for, and at length won. A Parliament was held, at Ayr, on Sunday, the 26th of April, 1315. The legislature now swore fealty to the King; in case of whose dying, without male issue, Edward, his brother, an approved warrior, was declared his successor; the King's daughter, Marjory, having assented to the preference of her uncle, owing to the emergency of the times.

Soon after this important settlement, Edward Bruce, with 6000 men, embarked at Ayr, and landed, on the 25th of May, 1315, at Carrick-fergus. Among other considerable barons who accompanied Edward, on this dangerous adventure, was Sir Fergus of Ardrossan. It required not many blows to deprive Edward Bruce of his hopes and of his life. This event was followed by an incident of still greater consequence. On the 7th of June, 1329, the great and gallant Bruce died, and was succeeded by his son David, an infant, and Randolph, the Earl of Moray, in consequence of the acts of settlement, assumed the character of regent.

With the commencement of the new reign, Edward Balliol began to revive his pretensions; and these, being seconded by the ambition of Edward III., occasioned a new war, which is memorable for its length, its struggles, and its disasters.

In 1334, Godfrey de Ross, the English governor of Ayrshire, submitted to the Stewart. Edward Balliol, with the aid of some English troops, wasted Cunningham, with other countries, in his progress. The English intruders were finally driven out by the struggles of the government, during the minority of David II., or by the efforts of gallant individuals. After the demise of David II., and the accession of Robert II., the contiguous kingdoms, by the frequent renewment of short truces, became less irritable and more conciliatory with each other, since Edward III. had relinquished all pretensions to the Scottish Crown.

[NOTE.—In 1382-3 Robert II. gave a licence to the servants of the Earl of Carrick to carry barley into Scotland, and corn was allowed to

be sent to various parts of Scotland. In 1396, Robert II. granted leave to the Earls of Carrick, and Fife, to buy and carry into Scotland wine and barley. Ayloff's Calend.]

Owing to that circumstance, David II. died quietly, at Edinburgh, on the 22d of February, 1371: and Robert II., the first of the Stewarts, who had many connections with Ayrshire, succeeded him, under the act of settlement, without much intrigue or opposition.

[NOTE.—Exclusive of what Robert the Stewart possessed in Ayrshire, his eldest son John, who was already Lord Kyle, was created Earl of Carrick by David II.]

He governed awhile without any other disturbance than the ambition of his brother Robert, Earl of Fife, the pretensions of Sir Archibald, Lord of Galloway, and the claims of some other great persons. To his son-in-law James Douglas of Lidisdale, the only son and heir of William Earl Douglas, Robert granted, in May, 1380, a pension of 200 marks sterling for his services, and as a retainer to the King, and to his son John, Earl of Carrick. On the death of Earl Douglas, James of Lidisdale became the most powerful noble in Scotland. Unhappily for Robert II., James, Earl of Douglas, fell, while fighting most gallantly, with Percy at Otterburn, 1388. Robert now lost all hope of governing quietly, having thus lost his best support, and only hope; whereupon he retired to Dundonalde Castle in Ayrshire, where he died, on the 19th of April, 1390. He was succeeded by his eldest son John, who assumed the title of Robert III.

When Robert III., by his charter of 1404 A.D., established the principality of Scotland, as an appanage for his eldest son, he annexed to it the barony of Cunningham, the *barony* of Kyle-Stewart, the *lands* of Kyle Regis, the smaller Cumbray, the whole lands of the earldom of Carrick, and the name of the district became the appellation of particular families.

However harmless, and however fit, was the marriage of Mary, Queen of Scots, with Darnley, yet did Queen Elizabeth, and Burghly, the Duke of Chattleherault, and Murray, raise a rebellion against the unhappy Queen. The rebellious nobles, with Murray at their head, held a meeting at Ayr, on the 15th of August, 1565, in order to concert their measures. And here were they joined by the Earl of Glencairn, a traitor by habit, and Wishart of Pittasraw, a zealot of faction and partizan of Murray, as well as comptroller of the Queen's household. The chief rebels who came to Edinburgh in September thereafter were the Duke of Chattelherault, and Murray; the Earl of Glencairn; Lord Boyd, and Lord Ochiltree.

[NOTE.—Glencairn's whole life (Life of Mary I., 149) consisted of acts of treason. Robert, Lord Boyd, says Crawford in his Peerage, 244, was much trusted by the Queen, to whom he faithfully adhered till the total suppression of his interest. But we see him with his master, the Duke, in open rebellion against his sovereign. Lord Boyd joined Mary when the Duke was forced to live in foreign parts. Lord Ochiltree was another Ayrshire noble of very loose principles, though a zealous reformer.]

The irritability of the people, the weakness of the laws, and the improvidence of the government, produced, in every district of Scotland, particularly in Ayrshire, family feuds, the most lasting and destructive. In 1409 a remission was granted by Robert, Duke of Albany, to Thomas Boyd of Kilmarnock, with others, for the odious slaughter of one Neilson of Dalrymple and others. In 1498 a feud existed between Hugh Campbell of Loudon, the Sheriff of Ayr, and Sir William Colville of Ochiltree.

[NOTE.—In July, 1498, the King granted an exemption to Sir William Colville of Uchcltre, knight, and to his tenants and servants, from the jurisdiction of Hugh Campbell of Loudon, the Sheriff of Ayr, and his deputies; because it is notoriously known that there is a deadly enmity and feid betwixt them. Privy Seal Reg. I., 39. What policy!]

The office of *the King's baillie of Cunningham* produced a feud of very long continuance between the neigbour families of Eglinton and Glencairn. This office had been held by Cunninghame of Kilmaurs, the predecessor of the Earl of Glencairn; but had been transferred, in the reign of James II., to Alexander de Montgomery, the predecessor of the Earl of Eglinton.

[NOTE.—In January, 1448-9 James II. granted the office of the baillie of Cunningham to Alexander de Montgomery. The charter is quoted in Wood's Peerage I., 496 Alexander de Montgomery, who obtained the above charter, died before his father, in 1452, seized of the said office. The retour, dated 17th June, 1466, was quoted by Wood, as above. In 1454, Alexander, Lord Montgomery, acquired the heritable office of baillie of Cunningham from his nephew, Alexander Cunningham of Kilmaurs. Crawford's Hist. of Renfrew, 12.]

In June, 1498, Hugh, Lord Montgomery, obtained a charter to him, and his heirs, of the

office of baillie of Cunningham, and chamberlain of the town of Irvine, to be held according to the tenor of the old charter thereof, which had been granted to his grandfather, Alexander de Montgomery. Whether any feud had existed about the office, before this time, does not appear; but it is certain that about the time of Lord Montgomery's obtaining this new charter of the office, a feud took place between him and Lord Kilmaurs, which continued between the families till after the union of the crowns.

On the 17th of February, 1498-9, Hugh, Lord Montgomery, required Cuthbert, Lord Kilmaurs, to find security for his followers keeping the peace.

On the 13th of March, 1498-9, a remission was granted to Cuthbert, Lord Kilmaurs, and twenty-seven other persons, for the part of the forethought felony committed by them on Gilbert Dunlop of Hairpland (Harperland) and for the violent hurting of Donald Robison, coming from the King's host; and for all other actions, treason, fire-raising, rape, slaughter, common theft, and forethought felony, committed at the time when they took the tolbooth of Irvine, and all actions coming thereupon, that day excepted.

[NOTE.—Privy Seal Reg. II. fol. 10. There remains a respite for 19 years, by Queen Mary, in 1552, to Robert, Lord Boyd, for any action against him, for being in the field with the Earl of Lennox against the Queen's father, 1526, at Linlithgow. A remission by Henry and Mary to Robert, Lord Boyd, for assisting the Duke of Chattelherault in taking the castles of Haddington and Draffan, 1566. A remission by Henry, King of Scots, to Argyle, Lord Boyd, and others, of all crimes committed since the first year of his reign, 1566. Decreet of the Lords of Session, at the instance of Lord Boyd, and others, against the Earl of Eglinton, for warranting them against the slaughter of John Montgomery, in Irving, 1555. Letters of remission to Lord Boyd, for the slaughter of Sir Neil Montgomery, 1547. A remission, in 1571, of Robert, Lord Boyd, and Thomas, Master of Boyd, and Robert Boyd of Badenheath, and others, for being in the battle of Langside in 1568. A remission to Robert, Lord Boyd, his son, and others, for the slaughter of John Mair.]

John, Master of Montgomery, the son and heir of Hugh, Lord Montgomery, was on the 12th of July, 1505, called in Parliament on a summons for treason, in having been participant in attacking and wounding William Cunningham of Craigans, the King's Coroner for Renfrewshire, in the execution of his office; he not appearing, the summons was continued to the 4th of November next. He was again called on various days in November, December, January following. The prosecution was probably dropped afterwards.

Lord Montgomery and Lord Kilmaurs, who were created Earls of Eglinton and Glencairn, soon after submitted their differences to the bishop of Moray, the Earls of Angus, Argyle, Cassillis, and to Lord Borthwick, which arbitrators pronounced a decree, on the 12th of January, 1509-10, finding that the Earl of Eglinton had a full and heritable right to the office of baillie of Cunningham. But, though this decree settled the legal right to the office, it did not terminate the feud between the two Earls.

A remission was, on the 24th of April, 1517, granted to William Cunningham, Knight, Master of Glencairn, and to twenty-seven of his followers, for the slaughter of Matthew Montgomery, Archibald Caldwell, and John Smith; and for the wounding of John Montgomery, the son and heir of Hugh, Earl of Eglinton; and for forethought felony.

[NOTE.—Privy Seal Reg. V. 108.—The above John Montgomery, the Master of Eglinton, was afterwards slain in the conflict upon the street of Edinburgh which was called *Clean the causey*, between the Earls of Angus and Arran, and their several partizans on the 30th April, 1520. John Montgomery fought and fell fighting on the side of Arran.]

The feud still continued in 1526 between the Earls of Eglinton and Glencairn. In the Parliament of November, 1526, Cuthbert, Earl of Glencairn, asked documents, that the Earl of Arran declared, if the Earl of Eglinton would not take friends and pass to concord concerning all matters debateable between the said Earls of Eglinton and Glencairn, that the Earl of Eglinton should neither have the Earl of Arran's heart nor his help in time to come. Not two years after this declaration in Parliament, William, the Master of Glencairn, and his followers burnt the castle of Eglinton.

[NOTE.—As appears by the King's letter of the 16th of November, 1528, stating that it was obvious to him (the King) and the Lords of his Council, that the Earl of Eglinton and his predecessors were infeft in his several lands and other property, and that it was well known that the principal messuage of the said Earl, and the manor-house of Eglinton, were lately burnt by the Master of Cunningham

and his followers, and the charters, infeftments, and evidents of the said lands were consumed therein; therefore, the King acknowledged the said Hugh, Earl of Eglinton, to be his immediate tenant in the said lands. The Earl accordingly obtained a charter for them, under the great seal of the 23rd of January, 1528-9.—Great Seal Reg. XXII. 207, 232.]

The above were not the only atrocities in Ayrshire. John Kennedy, the son of John, Lord Kennedy, stole the horse of Ferguson, and another horse from his own mother, the Countess of Errol, and he committed other felonies. For these crimes he received the King's remission in November, 1508.

[NOTE.—Privy Seal Reg. IV., 154.—The abovementioned Countess of Errol was Elizabeth Gordon, the daughter of George, Earl of Huntley, widow of Nicol, Earl of Errol, and the second wife of John, Lord Kennedy, by whom she had this abominable son, John Kennedy, who is omitted in the peerages of Crawford and of Douglas; but his name is mentioned in Wood's Peerage I. 328.]

After the disastrous battle of Flodden, on the 9th September, 1513, many violent acts were committed in Scotland, particularly in the South. In Ayrshire the strong houses of Uchiltre and of Cumnock were both violently taken possession of, their owners having fallen on Flodden field. Robert Colville of Uchiltre, the director of the chancery, having been killed at Flodden, his castle was instantly taken possession of by David Colville and James Colville and their followers. Cumnock Castle was also taken possession of by violence, Dunbar, the owner, having also fallen in his country's cause. The Privy Council, in September, 1513, directed letters to be written to those violent intruders to surrender the castles of Cumnock and Uchiltre, and a proclamation was made in the usual form and manner to effect the same purpose.

[NOTE.—The Privy Council heard the complaint of the widow of the Laird of Uchiltre, who had sacrificed his life at Flodden in his country's cause, and whose house had been thus violently possessed.]

The King granted various remissions for such crimes, and among the offenders were the Earl of Cassillis and his followers. But could the granting such remissions for such crimes have any other effect than to promote the perpetration of crimes, and to make disturbances in a country which was sufficiently disturbed without artificial incitements?

Gilbert, Earl of Cassillis, who received the above respite in 1526, was slain at Prestwick, in Kyle, on the 22nd of December, 1527, by Hugh Campbell of Loudon, the Sheriff of Ayr, aided by a great number of followers. This was said to be done by the instigation of Sir James Hamilton, the bastard son of the Earl of Arran. The Sheriff of Ayr absconded till he could obtain a remission. At Stirling, on the 1st of July, 1528, a remission was granted to Hugh Campbell, the Sheriff of Ayr, and 1400 other persons, for the late slaughter of Gilbert, Earl of Cassillis.

[NOTE.—Privy Seal Reg. VIII. 103.—The King soon after ratified, in Parliament, the remission to the Sheriff of Ayr and his friends and followers. In June, 1547, Sir Neil Montgomery of Lainshaw was killed in a feud by Lord Boyd. On the 20th April, 1586, Hugh, the son of Hugh, the Earl of Eglinton, was shot on the highway by John Cunningham of Colmcherth and his adherents. But it appears not that any of the assassins were punished, so frequent was the crime, and so slight was the offence deemed by such ungoverned times!]

The numerous clan of the Kennedies, in Carrick, was divided, during the reign of James VI., by a feud, which involved many parties, particularly the Kennedies among themselves. The origin of this great feud seems to have arisen from the violent and cruel treatment of Allan Stewart, the commendator of Cross-ragwell, in 1570, by the Earl of Cassillis and his brother, Thomas Kennedy of Cullean. The cruelty was perpetrated in August and September, 1570, by the Earl and his brother in order to obtain from the commendator leases of part of the estate of the monastery of Cross-ragwell. To effect this interested object, the Earl applied torture to a respectable person. When Kennedy, the laird of Bargeny, heard of the treatment of his friend, he obtained the authority of government for procuring his release. The Earl of Cassillis was charged, by the authority of government, to liberate the commendator of Cross-ragwell, under pain of rebellion. As the Earl disobeyed this charge, the laird of Bargeny, by the same authority, assembled his retainers, and took the Earl's castle of Dunure, wherein the commendator was confined. The Earl, enraged at this capture, assembled his vassals, in Carrick, and in West Galloway; and he besieged his castle of Dunure, which

was bravely defended by the laird of Bargeny, who, by the authority of the government, called out the King's lieges in Kyle and in Cunningham to his aid. Such a force was thus collected as obliged the Earl to raise the siege. The castle of Dunure was, in this manner, relieved, and the gallant Bargeny remained, for some time, in possession of it. The feud thus produced between Bargeny and his chief, the Earl of Cassillis, remained unextinguished for many years. Gilbert, the Earl of Cassillis, died in 1576, and was succeeded by his son John, who, being a minor, was governed by his uncle, Sir Thomas Kennedy of Cullean, as tutor, till the infant came of age.

The above feud produced a battle in Carrick, on the 8th of December, 1601, between the Earl of Cassillis and Gilbert Kennedy of Bargeny. Bargeny seems to have been either killed in the conflict, or to have died of his wounds. And five months afterwards, his death was revenged by the assassination of Kennedy of Cullean, the uncle of the Earl of Cassillis.

There was a subordinate feud between Sir Thomas Kennedy and John Mure of Auchendrain, which seemed to be amicably settled. But revenge still rankled in the heart of Mure; and Sir Thomas Kennedy, having made an appointment to meet Mure, this mallcious man gave notice of the appointed day to Thomas Kennedy, of Drumurchie, the brother of the laird of Bargeny ; and Mure incited Kennedy of Drumurchie to seize this occasion of revenging his brother's death. Kennedy of Drumurchie adopted this advice ; and, with the aid of his friends, waylaid and murdered Sir Thomas Kennedy of Cullean, on the 11th of May, 1602, and robbed him of his valuables, to the amount of £2000. The baseness of Mure was punished, after the effluxion of nine years. In July, 1611, Mure and his son were tried, in the Justiciary Court, for the murder of Kennedy of Cullean ; and Mure, the father, was convicted of this odious crime. On the same day, both the father and the son were convicted for the murder of William Dalrymple, when they were sentenced to be beheaded, and their estates to be forfeited.

Thomas Kennedy, of Drumurchie, met with a similar fate, being convicted of a similar crime. Jean, the Countess of Cassillis, who was accompanied by the master of Cassillis and seven other friends and servants, were attacked by Kennedy of Drumurchie, on the 18th of May, 1603, who was assisted by fifty armed men. The Countess, and her attendants, found refuge in the house of Duncan Crawford, of Auchingaul *(? Auchinsoul)*, in Carrick. But the assassins set fire to the house of Auchingaul. The Countess and her attendants fled from the flames. One of them was slain ; and seven being taken prisoners, were detained, till they agreed to pay large sums of money, and forsake their chief, the Earl of Cassillis. For this violence, Kennedy of Drumurchie was summoned to appear before the parliament, of April, 1604. This criminal person fled from Scotland. But the process being continued, his estate, and life, were forfeited, on the 11th July, 1604.

Hugh, Earl of Eglinton, died on the 3rd of September, 1546, and left his son, Hugh, as his heir, who was considerably under sixteen years of age ; having several persons for his curators. Sir Neil Montgomery of Langshaw, the grand-uncle of the young Earl, although not one of his curators, took possession of the family castles of Eglinton, in Ayr, and of Polnoon in Renfrew, while he assumed the command of the clan, and vassals. Some opposition appears to have been made to this presumption, by Marian Seaton, the countess-dowager of Eglinton ; but she was induced to come to an agreement with Sir Neil on the 29th of September, whereby he was to act as the chief of the clan, and vassals, till the young Earl should attain the age of sixteen ; and he was, moreover, to receive the ward, and rents, of a certain share of the land, with the castle of Eglinton, as well as other property. At St Andrews, on the 17th of November, 1546, in the presence of the Governor and Council, Sir Neil agreed to receive into favour several retainers of the late Earl, in conformity to the late Earl's last will and testament, as well as with the contract made with the Countess above mentioned. And he gave assurance to the said Countess, with sixteen servants, to come to the castle of Polnoon, on the 25th of November current ; and there receive the money, jewels, and evidents, and other goods, wherewith he had intromitted in the said castle.

[NOTE.—These engagements were recorded in the books of Privy Council, on the 21st of November, 1546. In the following year Sir Neil Montgomery of Langshaw was assassinated by Robert Lord Boyd, who soon after obtained a remission from the Regent Arran, to whom he was a retainer.]

A feud had existed, as we have seen, between the families of Eglinton and Glencairn during a century, and it occasionally produced acts of violence at different times. It now induced the

assassination of the Earl of Eglinton, at the end of ten months, after he had succeeded to his father's title and inheritance, when, riding from his own castle, he was, at the river Annock, waylaid and shot by David Cunningham of Robertland and other Cunninghams. They were instigated to commit this atrocious crime by the Earl of Glencairn, upon a promise, which he afterwards denied, of maintaining them in so foul an act. The youthful Earl was much regretted by the country. Spottiswoode observes that this unhappy fact did cost much blood, and was afterwards honourably avenged by Robert, the master of Eglinton, the deceased's brother.

[NOTE.—He does not, we see, remark on the childishness of a King, and feebleness of a Government which could leave it to a brother to revenge such a deed.]

The assassins were denounced rebels, and process of law was issued for arresting them. But this was of little avail, as they skulked among their friends during several years, and thereby eluded so inefficient a pursuit. On the 13th of August, 1586, an ordinance of the King in Council was made, authorising Robert, master of Eglinton, to take possession of the houses of Robertland and of Aiket, to be retained till their owners should be taken, or find security to stand trial for the murder of the Earl; and the master of Eglinton was authorised to levy a certain part of the rents of Robertland and of Aiket to discharge the expense of retaining the said houses. This act of Council was ratified and enforced by an Act of Parliament in July, 1587. Yet in March, 1591-2, David Cunningham of Robertland obtained from the King a pardon for so monstrous an offence, and an order of the Privy Council for the delivery of his house. Some of the accomplices also obtained pardons by means of the Earl of Glencairn, who was himself the principal assassin. On the 5th of June, 1592, two Acts of Parliament were passed repealing the order in Council of the 13th of August, 1586, and the Act of Parliament of the 29th of July, 1587, and directing Robert, master of Eglinton, to surrender the houses of Robertland and Aiket, and one of those Acts of Parliament ratified the pardon to Cunningham of Robertland. On passing those Acts, the King, in the presence of Parliament, declared that so far as he remembered he never granted a pardon to any person who was accessory to the murder of the Earl of Eglinton, except the remission to Cunningham of Robertland, whereupon James, Earl of Glencairn, protested that the King's declaration should not prejudice any of the Earl's friends who had already obtained pardons for the said murder, but that they should be allowed to plead their several remissions in their defences when prosecuted for the murder of Eglinton, notwithstanding the King's declaration.

Under any other Government than that of Scotland under James VI., it would have been thought very extraordinary that none of the assassins of an Earl should have been punished for so atrocious a crime. It was such laxity which incited private revenge rather than public punishment. Of course, feuds continued, and revenge was incited rather than assuaged. There was, at the same time, a feud between Kennedy of Blairquhan, in Carrick, and Stewart of Garlies, in Western Galloway. At length, in November, 1592, the Church interposed, the judicatories of the Church considering such feuds to be contrary to religion, as inconsistent with law.

The feud between the family of Eglinton and Glencairn continued many years. Twenty years after the assassination of the Earl of Eglinton, it produced a great disturbance, under the very eyes of parliament and privy council, at Perth, on the 1st of July, 1606. On the very day of the meeting of parliament, at Perth, George, Lord Seton, and his brother, Alexander Seton, meeting the Earl of Glencairn and his attendants, in the bridge gate, made an attack on him for revenging the murder of their uncle, Hugh, Earl of Eglinton, by the Cunninghams, in 1586, which was instigated by the Earl of Glencairn. Both parties having drawn their weapons, a tumult was raised, which continued for some time, and disturbed the council which was then sitting. Lord Seton was summoned before the council, for creating a disturbance during the sitting of Parliament. But he, retreating from the noisy scene, was denounced a rebel for not appearing to the summons.

During the reign of James VI., owing, perhaps, to the unsettled state of the times, it became the fashion for country gentlemen to live in taverns and houses of refreshment rather than their own castles. The parliament of October, 1581, interposed, by an act against the abuse of some landed gentlemen, and others, forbearing to keep house at their own dwelling-places, and boarding themselves in ale-houses.

[NOTE.—In March, 1600, the treasurer paid £5 6s 8d to James Creichtoun, sheriff in that part, for summoning Hugh Kennedy of Pinwhirrie, John Kennedy of Bridgend, Hugh

Kennedy in Girvan Mains (and other gentlemen) to compear before the lords of session, to hear themselves decernit to have incurred the pains contained in the actis of parliament for burding (boarding) themselves in *oistlar* houses (inns). The Treasurer's Books.]

This coarseness, thus punished, by enforcing penalties, ere long went out of fashion, especially among the married gentlemen, who, surely, could not have *burded their wives* in *oistlar houses*.

During subsequent times, which appear to have run into contrary extremes, the good people of Ayrshire followed their neighbours into the fanatical follies which, during the "grand rebellion," prevailed in Scotland. They adopted "the covenant," they supplied the nation during that period with a lord chancellor, in the person of John, Earl of Loudon, and they contributed men and money, while they had any to spare, to suppress the sovereign, without being able to exist without a King, provided he would adopt "the covenant," which was only assumed to be broken. By carrying such follies to extremes, the ruling clergy and laity brought on the subduction of the kingdom, by a greater, and more artful, and able fanatick than themselves. The nobles of Ayrshire who were most active during that busy period were the Earl of Loudon, the Chancellor, and the Earls of Cassillis, Glencairn, and Eglinton. Of the commissioners, lay and clerical, who were sent to negotiate with Charles II., at Breda, the chief was the Earl of Cassillis. And they succeeded, by whatever artifice, in bringing the King with them to Scotland.

The results are sufficiently known. The King found his way from England to France, by his secrecy and address, notwithstanding every effort to arrest him. The death of Cromwell, and the conviction of the great body of the people as to the folly and the fruitlessness of the late warfare, produced the restoration of Charles II., in May, 1660.

Whether his government, in Scotland, or some of the clergy, with their followers, were the most to blame, cannot easily be ascertained. The government constantly recollected the late confusions, and the recent fanaticism; which had confounded all the forms of the constitution, and the principles of society. They dreaded the renewal of such scenes. The portion of the clergy, who were most fanatical, considered *the covenant* as still in existence; they were not convinced that the first principles of every society existed here in full force; they of consequence were guilty of the most visionary follies, which was a material injury to all those who allowed themselves to be so far deluded as to commit a wrong to the community whereof they were members.

Under such circumstances the government adopted extraordinary remedies; considering that the King's power had been denied; the force of the laws had been disputed; and the authority of the government had been set at naught. In 1664, the towns of Ayr and Irvine were directed to choose quite different magistrates from those who had refused to make the declaration appointed for all those who acted in any public trust. In 1666, Ayrshire contributed its people, and its purse, towards the insurrection, which was dispersed at Pentland-hills. A committee of the privy council, under a special commission, sat at Ayr in March, 1678, for directing the military execution to its proper objects. On the 4th of that month, a garrison of 120 foot and horse were placed in the house of Blairquhan, in Carrick; in Barskimming-house, 60 foot and horse; in Cessnock, the same number of foot and horse. In addition to such military measures, the highland host, as the highland clans were called, were brought into the western shires, to live at free quarter. Wodrow has preserved "an account of the losses sustained by quartering, robbing, and spoiling, of the soldiers, and by the highland host," in March, 1678:—

	Scots Money.
In Kyle, the value of the whole losses, ...	£55,419 11 0
In Carrick, the same, ...	31,677 0 0
In Cunningham, the same,	50,402 15 0
The loss in Ayrshire, ...	£137,499 6 0

Many other losses in Ayrshire are reckoned by Wodrow. And all these losses and vexations were sustained for the profit and the pleasure of preaching, or being preached to, in mosses and moors on hills and in dales. The consequence of such proceedings were insurrections and civil wars in Ayrshire. In July, 1680, a conflict occurred at Airs-moss, in Auchinleck parish, where the insurgents were overpowered, and their leaders were taken. It was not so much a change of measures as a change of manners that could obtain quiet among a people as fanatical as they were irascible.

We might, from these circumstances, suppose that the people of Ayrshire would concur zealously in the Revolution of 1688. As one of the western shires, Ayrshire sent its full proportion of armed men to Edinburgh, to protect

the convention of *estates*. On the 6th of April, 1689, the forces that had come from the *western counties* having received thanks from the convention, for their seasonable service, they immediately departed, with their arms, to their respective homes. They were offered some gratification; but they would receive none, saying that they had come *to save and serve their country*, but not to enrich themselves at the nation's expense. It was at the same time ordered "that the inhabitants of the town of Ayr should be kept together, till further orders." On the 14th of May arms were ordered to be given to Lord Bargeny, an Ayrshire baronet. On the 25th of May, in answer to a letter from the Earl of Eglinton, the convention ordered "that the heritors, and fencible men, in the shire of Ayr, be instantly raised, and commanded, in conformity to the appointment of the estates." But, of such proofs of the revolutionary principles of Ayrshire, enough! The men of Ayr not only approved of *the Revolution*, but they drew their swords in support of its establishment and principles. On that memorable occasion, the governors were not only changed; but new principles were adopted, and better practices were introduced; and the Ayrshire people were gratified by the abolition of episcopacy, and by the substitution of presbyterianism in its room, which brought with it its old maxims of intolerance, and its invariable habit of persecution.

There was, moreover, placed at the head of the college of justice the Lord Viscount Stair, one of the celebrated men whom Ayrshire has produced; yet may we doubt if the law and right were administered, according to the genuine maxims of the Revolution.

[NOTE.—The fleshers of Ayr-town brought an action against their magistrates, for suspending a fine imposed upon them, and choosing a *deacon* of their trade, contrary to an act of their town council, annulling that incorporation, for having a *deaconry*. It was answered by the magistrates that the act of parliament, 1555, prohibited deacons. Yet, the lords did not regard this, saith Fountainhall, seeing that the universal practice of the nation had run in the contrary; and finding they had more than a possessory judgment of seven years, they maintained the fleshers in their possession, and suspended the fine. Fountainhall I. 635-6.]

We thus see a custom set up, in the face of an act of parliament; so difficult is it for the old to forget the prejudices of their youth! The Revolution led on, however, to one of the most fortunate events in the annals of Northern Britain, the incorporate union of Scotland with England.

The established principles of Ayrshire led the people to concur with the Union. Ayr-town, like Glasgow, had no mob, and had no agitators, to pervert either the many or the few. The people of Ayrshire of course acquiesced in what had been agreed upon, as comprehending the best terms that could be obtained; and experience has confirmed the rectitude of their concurrence, and the salutariness of the wisdom that directed the nation, in agreeing to stipulations, which were solid in their avowed theory, and salutary in their practical effect.

OF ITS AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURE, AND TRADE.

Ayrshire, after the effluxion of many an age, remained still covered with woods, which sheltered the game, and protected the cattle, which supplied the wretched inhabitants with the necessaries of life. "Yes," says the intelligent minister of Dalrymple parish, "mosses cover our ancient forests." The Scoto-Irish colonists, who came in upon the descendants of the Damnii, did not change much the old habits and newer manners of their predecessors, in this diversified country. They lived chiefly by the pasturage of their cattle, and during many a year, before peats or coals were thought of, as fuel, cut down the woods for their necessary firing. Such was, perhaps, the georgical state of Ayrshire during the Scoto-Saxon period. At length, Alexander III. died, without a successor, which introduced a competition, with long and wasteful wars, as well as civil feuds. It was in this period, also, that the towers, castles, and fortlets were built, to shelter the lord of the manor from surprise, and to protect him from the expected intrusion of a personal enemy.

At a much later period, as low down, perhaps, as 1750, the farm houses were mere hovels, having an open hearth, or fire-place, in the middle of the floor; the dunghill at the door; the cattle starving, and the people wretched. There were no fallows, no green crops, no artificial grass; no carts, or waggons; no straw yards, or hardly a potato or any esculent root. Such was the agricultural state of Ayrshire about the year 1750, a period of great commercial prosperity. The farms were generally divided between the infield, and the outfield, land. The first received the whole manure; the second was almost relinquished in despair. From such husbandmen, what rent

could the landlords expect? Yet, such was the general state of Ayrshire as low down as 1750, when both manufacture and commerce, at the end of long wars, prospered greatly.

It is, certainly, a much more pleasant task to trace the rise and progress of agricultural improvements, than to recount the effects of unskilfulness and the miseries of langour. The dawn of a better husbandry began to appear in the union with England. The year 1723, as it was the epoch of the association of improvers, at Edinburgh, may be deemed the morning of a better spirit. But, such associations can only be confined to the higher orders of men, who readily perceive their own interest, and do not soon spread their benefits over the whole agriculture of a county, having an unkindly climate, and an ungrateful soil. The year 1767 may be deemed the true epoch of efficient improvements, being also the epoch of the settlement of Margaret, Countess of Loudon, in Sorn Castle. (In Wight's Agricultural Tours that castle is twice called Lorn Castle.) Wight had the honour to see this very uncommon woman, the daughter and wife of two earls who, in her younger days, had adorned Courts by her elegance, in her widowhood sat down, in a solitary castle, amidst rudeness and ignorance, and who lived here upwards of seventy years, improving her demesne, and benefitting her neighbourhood. Fifty years ago, saith Wight, when this lady took up her residence in Sorn Castle (1727), not a tree was to be seen, a scrubby wood excepted, and now the finest oaks and other barren trees are striving, as it were, which shall rise the highest. The plantations are extensive, and trained in the best order, everything being directed by the Countess herself. The soil of her farm is far from being kindly, continues the intelligent Wight; yet by skill and perseverance she has brought it into high order; not greater verdure can be seen anywhere. In a word, her farm graces the county of Ayr, and might grace the richest county in Britain. She surprised me with her knowledge in husbandry; discoursed on the qualities of various grasses; inquired into the method of raising potatoes from the apple; and expressed uncommon zeal for husbandry improvements.

[NOTE.—She died, in the 99th year of her age, on the 3rd of April, 1779.—Scots Mag. 1779. Which is mistakingly stated, in 1777, in Wood's Peerage. Dr Johnson and Mr Boswell offered their homage to this venerable woman.]

But it was at a much later period when the nobility and gentry of Ayrshire began to improve their estates upon systematic principles, under the skilful direction of intelligent stewards. Farmers were even invited by them from the more southern shires to show the inferior husbandmen the practice of the best principles of genuine farming. The clergy of this shire had been celebrated for their knowledge of this most useful art, and for teaching their parishioners how much they would benefit their families by departing from old ignorance and adopting new knowledge. Much had been done, in this country of various soils and wet climate, by enclosing and planting, by pulverizing the glebe, before Wight made his first tour in Ayrshire, during 1777. The landlords and tenants now began to drain their fields, which were overcharged with moisture; to apply much lime as the most efficacious manure; to cultivate grass rather than corn in so wet a climate; and to turn most of their attention to what was the ancient practice, by feeeding cattle and sheep, with less attention to rotation of crops than is used in those districts which are blessed with happier climes. It is in vain to talk of any settled system of rotations, since the true practice of every district must be adopted from the known circumstances of their soil and climate. The cultivation of grasses, and the peculiarity of climate, has induced the farmers of Ayrshire to carry the practice of the dairy beyond example in Scotland, and equal to that of England. The value of those dairies to Ayrshire in milk, butter, cheese, and cattle is very considerable. The ardent spirit of improvement has been now roused, and promises a long endurance. The true system of agriculture, considering the soil and climate, is now perfectly understood, not only by the nobility, gentry, and clergy, but also by the professed farmers; and the interest and benefit which result from that system, both to the landlord and tenant, are so well known and acknowledged that it will probably long continue to bless an industrious people.

There is another kind of improvement which is analogous to agriculture, and is of vast importance to every georgical people. In former times Ayrshire had no other roads but those pathways which led to church and market. But since the spirit of improvement was raised, and the people came to understand the benefit of communications, roads, general and vicinal, have been made in almost every direction wherein policy pointed the course.

Analogous to roads are railways, and a very important one of rather more than nine miles has been made by the Duke of Portland, from

the Troon point, upon the Clyde frith, to Kilmarnock, having for its end two great objects—to connect Kilmarnock, a place of considerable manufacture and trade, with the Troon; and to convey the coals from the several collieries of the adjoining country. Whatever interest the Duke may have had, yet the public spirit which directed his labours merits the highest praise as his country's benefactor. There are other railways formed and forming in various districts of Ayrshire, which will greatly promote the export of her staples, though coal seems to be one of the greatest.

Next to railways in utility are canals. Several small canals have been executed, either for removing coals to the place of export at Saltcoats or transporting minerals and metals to the ironworks of Muirkirk. But what are those either in usefulness or greatness to the canal which was projected from Glasgow and Ardrossan, one and thirty miles, one-third whereof has been executed from Tradeston, opposite to Glasgow, on the Clyde, to Johnstone, beyond Paisley. Such a canal would have collected the whole products of the adjoining country, and carried them either to Glasgow or to Ardrossan, or might have facilitated the import to Ardrossan or the export from Glasgow. But the expectation of transferring Port-Glasgow and Greenock to Ardrossan was surely hopeless. Such a frith and river, which carry West India ships to the wharfs of Glasgow, are not to be superseded by a *ditch* canal, particularly when to these natural advantages are added the prodigious advantages of steamboats.

We are thus carried forward to considerations concerning the manufactures and trade of Ayrshire. From the ages that the descendants of the Damnii ceased to paint their bodies, and were driven, by a rugged climate, to cover themselves with the skins and the furs of the beasts which they killed, every family must have carried on some manufacture. The mildness, the energy, and the enterprise of the long reign of George III. carried up that domestic manufacture, in this shire, to the extent and importance of professed and public manufactures. The fabricks of wool, of linen, of cotton, of leather, of iron, had taken very deep root here, amid the advantages of Ayrshire. Fuel is very abundant; the necessaries of life are plenty, and cheap. The materials for building are at hand; the channels of communication are open and free. The materials of manufacture are either produced in the shire, or easily obtained. For their own products the markets are near. The vicinity of such towns as Glasgow and Paisley inspired all orders with industry and supplied them with employment; and this intercourse was promoted and strengthened by the many roads which traversed every district. In this manner, then, the seeds of vigorous manufactures were sown with an abundant hand throughout Ayrshire. The fabricks of wool seem to have taken root here in very early times. Bonnets and serges were, to a great value, made in early times by the industry of Kilmarnock. Machinery of various kinds and singular use were introduced here as early as machinery was thought of. Carpets and cloths and stockings were made; but after all their efforts they seem not to have fabricated the finer broad cloths. This useful manufacture of a material produced in the same country extended at the end of last century to every district in this shire. In Dalmellington, and in Cumnock, this manufacture is carried to a great extent of various kinds, by the aid of machinery, for teasing and carding wool. Connected with these woollen fabricks there are established in every parish dyers and fullers.

The linen manufacture has also been introduced into Ayrshire, though it has never been carried to a great extent. In the year ending with November, 1800, there were made in Ayrshire 60,414 yards for sale, of the value of £5986 11s 0¾d. As the other manufactures prospered, the linen declined; so that in 1815, a great year of manufacture, there were only made for sale in this shire, 21,039 yards of linen, worth £3418 7s 10½d. And this manufacture became less in its amount and value in 1819. The making of thread has been carried to a considerable extent in Beith. There were here employed seventy mills for twisting thread, which were turned either by steam, or by the strength of men.

About the year 1770, the manufacturing of silk was introduced into Ayrshire, and employed many persons. But the fashion changed; and with it the fabrick fell.

The cotton manufacture was introduced into Ayrshire about the year 1787, soon after it was established in Glasgow and Paisley. Great works were settled at Catrine, which have been carried to a great extent; and which have raised a town where there was scarcely a village; and the weaving of muslins has spread over the whole of this country, though with less advantage, owing to the habits of the weavers. Incident to those manufactures is bleaching, which has been carried to a great amount in this shire.

The fabrics of leather have been greatly extended in Ayrshire; and tanning, and the making of shoes and boots have been greatly extended, and to considerable profit. Saddlery also has been carried up, not only to domestic supply, but to foreign export, to much advantage.

Great iron-works were established at Muirkirk in 1787, which has produced iron of every kind and goodness, so as to employ many hands and to interest many people. Other iron-works have also been erected with success; and founderies have been introduced into many places, and give profitable employment to many persons.

Potteries have been erected at various places for domestic utensils, though perhaps not to any great amount or profit. Kelp, barilla, black ashes, soda, and salt have all been made to advantage along the shores of the frith. It is now quite apparent that manufactures of various kinds, of different advantages, have been established and settled in Ayrshire. They are now so fixed, and so understood, as to induce the country gentlemen of the lower rank to invest some of their property in them, to useful advantage, besides introducing their younger children to the skill and advantage which are to be gained from engaging in manufactures.

We are now induced to speak of the trade and shipping of this shire.

Salt is made on its shores, and fishing is carried on upon its waters, but neither to any great amount or value. There is a paper mill on the Doon. Shipbuilding and rope-making are incident to shipping. In this shire there seem to be only two custom-house ports, Ayr and Irvine, along 70 miles of coast. Ayr, in 1656, possessed 5 barques, carrying 177 tons. In 1692 Ayr had none, having lost all their ships, during late times, to the value of £2611. But, during the century which elapsed, in 1792, Ayr had acquired 34 vessels, bearing 2167 tons, and before 1818 Ayr had obtained 57 vessels, carrying 5842 tons. We thus trace considerable progress in the acquisition of shipping.

[NOTE. It is a fact which cannot be doubted that both Ayr and Irvine have greatly augmented their trade during late years. In the port of Ayr, there arrived, and cleared, 1818, 188 sail of shipping; in 1821, 411 sail. In 1818 Ayr exported of coals 2761 tons: in 1821, 9640 tons. Within the port of Irvine there were shipped of coals, in the year ended on the 4th January, 1821, 74,662 chalders and 20 bushels of coals, Winchester measure, or about 83,995 tons, being almost 3637 tons of increase on last year.—From the custom-house accounts.]

Irvine seems generally to have had more ships than Ayr. In 1656 Irvine had 4 barques, carrying 40 tons. In 1692 Irvine had 8 small ships, barques, and boats. At the end of a century this port possessed 103 vessels, bearing 8320 tons. In the custom-house register the shipping were said to have employed, in *foreign* trade, 44 ships, having 5398 tons; in the coast trade, 13 ships, having 444 tons; in fishing, none. Irvine was said, in the same register, to have employed, in *foreign* trade, 112 ships, having 9972 tons; in the coast trade, 11 ships, having 221 tons; in fishing, 6 ships, having 301 tons.

One of the principal causes of so much prosperity and improvement in Ayrshire was the establishment of commercial banks. The first bank, which was settled in 1763 by John McAdam & Company, carried on the business of banking till they were overpowered by too considerable rivals. The first bank was followed by the great bank of Douglas, Heron & Company, which was commonly called the Ayr Bank, and which had well nigh ruined the most opulent and the highest in rank in Scotland by the extent and the imprudence of their speculations. This bank, which was chiefly founded on land, the worst possible capital for such a mercantile concernment, was settled in 1769 and closed in 1772. But however unfortunate the Ayr Bank was to its co-partners, its liberality or imprudence did the greatest service to the southern counties of Scotland by supplying country gentlemen and traders and manufacturers with what they wanted the most, capital, for enlarging and carrying forward their various speculations. The good was done to the country, while the Bank was ruined. Upon the dissolution of this great establishment, another bank of less pretension and more prudence, under the mercantile firm of Hunters & Company, to which was soon added a sub-division of the Bank of Scotland, in 1775. These several banks, which carried on their useful business at the shire town, have served the country and profited themselves as much as could reasonably be desired.

To all those commercial establishments the towns and villages of Ayrshire are of great importance which require some historical notice. Prestwick, which stands on the coast of Kyle-Stewart, appears to have been a burgh as ancient as the epoch of the settlement of the Stewarts in Renfrew and Ayrshire. It became

the chief town in Kyle-Stewart. Under a charter of James VI., in June, 1600, it has a right to choose a chancellor, two baillies, and other officers, to grant franchises, and to hold markets. To this burgh there belongs 1000 acres of land, which are divided among 36 freemen or *barons*, each of whom enjoy a lot of arable land and pasturage on the common moor. All this was supposed to be very fine, but the burgh of Prestwick has not flourished.

At the issue of the river of Ayr into the Frith of Clyde, under some ancient fortlet, there rose, in ancient times, the hamlet of Ayr, though the Celticism of the people was not very favourable either to traffick or towns. In 1197 A.D. there appears to have been a new town settled, between the Don and Ayr, as well as a castle, which, in the charter of Ayr, by King William, is called "Novum castellum mecum super Ayr." The King here erected *a burgh*, with the usual liberties to his burgesses, with some lands.

[NOTE.—In 1233 King Alexander II. confirmed the charter of William, and the grant of Alexander was confirmed by a charter of David II. in 1367. In the grant of Alexander to his queen in 1221, it was allowed that the queen and her heirs might go to the castle of Ayr and enjoy the benefits of the Castellaria till the decease of her mother.]

It appears that the privileged territory of the burgh of Ayr for buying and selling bounded with the lands of Rutherglen at Karnbuth, on the eastern extremity of Kyle, and in the south-east bounds of Cunningham. Its monopoly of trade extended to almost the whole of Kyle, and thereby interfered with the commercial monopoly of Irvine. The gross revenue of the corporation of Ayr, which was returned to Parliament, in 1788, was £679 2s 6¾d sterling. The burgh is governed by a provost, two baillies, a dean of guild, a treasurer, and ten merchants, and two trades counsellers; the whole government consisting of seventeen persons. At so late a period as 1556, the town of Ayr appears to have paid to the tax of that year more than Glasgow, and much more than Irvine:—

	By Ayr.	By Glasgow.	By Irvine
In 1556-7 was paid	£322 7 1	£276 15 0	£184 10 0
In 1695, for the monthly assessment	128 0 0	180 0 0	60 0 0
In the tax-roll of 1771	0 15 0	0 18 0	0 18 0

Irvine, as early as the reign of Alexander II., had charters of an earlier date; it has still more of latter dates (Robert I. granted a charter to the town of Irvine). The monopoly of its trade extended over the whole of Cunningham and Largs. Between two towns so near each other as Ayr and Irvine, and claiming such exclusive privileges, disputes naturally arose. Those commercial controversies were settled, by Robert II., in April, 1372, when the baillie of Cunningham, by an inquest taken, found that the burgesses of Irvine were entitled, time out of mind, to an exclusive trade within the barony of Cunningham, and the barony of Largs. These privileges were now confirmed by the charter of Robert II., which granted moreover to the burgesses of Irvine the liberty of a guild. Such were the law and practices of those times, when the benefits of the whole people were sacrificed to the interests of particular towns. Without adverting to such unpolicy, James, in 1601, granted a new charter to the burgesses of Irvine, which was ratified by the parliament of 1641.

[NOTE.—The charters of Robert II., Robert III., and James IV., and one of James VI., in 1572, to the burgh of Irvine, were all ratified at the same time.]

The revenue of the corporation of Irvine, as reported to parliament, in 1688, was £554 15s 9-4-12d sterling. (In 1817, the revenue, as reported to parliament, was £1000.) The magistracy of this town consists in all of 17 members, including a provost, two baillies, a dean of guild, a treasurer, fifteen merchant counsellors, and two trades counsellors. The prosperity of these two ancient burghs, though considerable, has not equalled that of Glasgow, Paisley, and Greenock. Even the burghs of barony of Ayrshire have, during the last sixty years, advanced with a rapid progress.

Kilmarnock, the most populous town in this shire, has long enjoyed the benefits of industry, though it stands at seven miles distance from the sea, and enjoys the advantages of healthfulness.

The epoch of its manufactures seems to have been 1742; and in the subsequent fifty years, they have made a very great progress, amounting in value, about 1792, to £86,850 a year; whereof the carpets manufactured were valued at £21,400; the shoes and boots at £21,216; skins tanned, £9000; sheep and lamb-skins dressed, £6500; printed calicoes, £6500; and various other fabricks of less value. But, the whole give employment to an industrious people. Kilmarnock is a burgh of barony, which is governed by two baillies and a council of seventeen. These five incorporated trades, the bonnet-makers, the skinners, the tailors, the shoemakers, and the weavers — these

societies are said to be of very great service, by preserving regularity and good order in the different branches of manufacture. But it is in the absence of such rules, and good order, that such manufactures flourish the most.

[NOTE.—In 1670 the town of Kilmarnock was burnt, when a public collection was made for the sufferers, by direction of the Diocesan Synod. It should seem, from Lamont's Chron., that Kilmarnock has often been injured by fire. Kilmarnock was created a burgh of barony by a charter to Thomas Lord Boyd, the 12th January, 1591-2, which was ratified in Parliament on the 5th June, 1592. The privileges of a burgh of barony were confirmed to it by a charter of Charles II. to William, Earl of Kilmarnock, in 1672.]

In this parish there are two antiquities, which are noted: Dean Castle, the residence of the imprudent Earl of Kilmarnock; it was burnt down, in 1735. The other antiquity is *Soules* Cross, situated in the north-eastern part of the town; being a pillar eight or nine feet high. Some years ago the inhabitants repaired, at their own expense, this ornament to their town, and placed thereon this inscription: L. Soules, 1444. This was the eighth year of the reign of James II. But the fact is there were no Soules in Scotland, either as a friend, or as an enemy, after the reign of Robert I. The silence of Dugdale seems to evince that the family of Soules became extinct, about the period of that reign, in England.

The town of Saltcoats which, like Kilmarnock, owes its origin and progress to industry, is singularly situated on the limits of the two parishes of Stevenston and Ardrossan. It owes its origin to the reign of James V., and, by means of the coal trade, the source of so much wealth, has risen to be a populous town. During a century it has sent coals to Ireland. At an earlier period it was occupied in making salt; and hence, probably, the name of Saltcotes, or cottages.

[NOTE.—Saltcoats was created a burgh of barony by a charter of James V., the 1st February, 1528-9.]

The seeds of industry have been scattered with a very liberal hand throughout Ayrshire; and nothing more is wanting to the prosperity and wealth of this district, but a steady application of the people to their own affairs.

OF ITS ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

Some account of the *religious houses* of Ayrshire may properly be given, prior to the notice of its parishes.

Kilwinning Abbey was founded for Tyronensian monks in 1140 A.D., by Hugh Morville, who became Constable of Scotland before that year, and died in 1162. The male descendants, and name, of this family failed, by the decease of William, in 1196, when his vast estates in Cunningham and other districts, with his office, went to his sister Helena, who carried them to her husband, Roland, the lord of Galloway. The Abbey was dedicated, according to the practice of the age, to the Virgin Mary, and to St Winin, who is said to have been a bishop in Scotland, as early as the eighth century. There existed here, before 1140, a church, which had been dedicated to the same saint, and from him called *Kil-winnin; Kil* in the British-Irish languages signifying, by various declensions, a retreat, a cell, a church. A spring of water in the vicinity, which was celebrated for its virtues, was called St Winnin's well.

[NOTE.—Hoveden gravely remarks that a fountain, near the Church of St Winnen, in Cunningham, ran blood for eight days and nights, in 1184, the 20th of the reign of William. For such a miracle this year is rather late; and history has recorded nothing that would justify the fiction. The monks of Kilwinning preserved in their monastery some reliques which brought them many offerings. James IV., when passing this place, on the 10th July, 1507, made an offering of 14 shillings to the reliques in Kilwinnin.—Treasurer's Accounts.]

At this church an annual fair, which is called St Winnin's Fair, has long been held, on the 21st of January, the epoch of the saint's festival. The monastery was very amply endowed with lands and churches by the founder, by his successors, and by various persons, who either thought well of the family of the founders or venerated the virtues of the saint.

[NOTE.—The monks of Kilwinning obtained a charter from Robert III., ratifying one of his progenitors, King Robert, of all their lands, mills, and other property, which were comprehended in the barony of Kilwinning, the whole to be held in a free regality, with ample jurisdiction. This charter was afterwards confirmed by James IV., on the 6th July, 1498. From James III. they obtained a charter, giving them power to hold Chamberlain Courts, on their own lands, and to replege their tenants, and men, from any other judicatory; 8th January, 1472-3. This was also confirmed by James IV. on the 6th July, 1498. The monastery of Kilwinning

was by far the most opulent religious establishment in Ayrshire. At the epoch of the Reformation there belonged to it sixteen parish churches, with their tithes and lands. The rental of this abbey, as reported, in 1562, amounted to £850 3s 4d in money; 8 bolls, 1 firlot of wheat; 14 chalders, 1 boll, 3 firlots, 3 pecks of bear; 67 chalders, 9 bolls, and 3 pecks of meal; 40 stones of cheese; 13 stirks; 140 capons; 100 hens; 4 hogsheads of wine; and 9 fathoms of a peat stack. Another rental states the cheese as "268 cheeses;" but both statements must be greatly under the truth; for the possessors and feuars of the lands of Achiuntiber and Airthmaid, in Cunningham, paid to the abbey no less than 198 *stones of cheese*.—Acta Parl. IV., 453. These notices show that Cunningham was equally distinguished in former times, as at present, for a large manufacture of cheese.]

In 1560 this splendid house was almost destroyed by that religious ruffian, Alexander, Earl of Glencairn, who enjoyed pensions from Henry VIII. for injuring the country of his birth, and benefits. But, for the same injuries, the earl was sainted by Knox. The earl endeavoured to derive some property to his family from this demolished abbey. But the Earl of Eglinton finally obtained its various possessions, under several grants of the king, and Acts of Parliament. A part of this religious house was used as the parish church till 1773, when a new one was built.

[NOTE.—Upon the death of Gavin Hamilton, commendator of Kilwinning, in June 1571, the Earl of Glencairn procured his younger son, Alexander, to be appointed commendator of that monastery, and he obtained from his son, as commendator, a grant of various lands in Ayrshire, which belonged to the monastery. Of this grant he obtained a confirmation under the great seal, the 19th February, 1572-3. Of the ruin of St Winnin's house Grose has, in his Antiq. ii. 212, left a good view from a drawing, in 1789.]

Crossragwell Abbey, in the parish of Kirkoswald, in Carrick, was founded by Duncan, the first Earl of Carrick, who died about the year 1240; and was dedicated to the Virgin Mary; and it was planted with Cluniac monks, from Paisley.

[NOTE.—In various charters the name of this religious house has been differently written; Crosragmer, Crosragmol, Crosragwell, and Crosregal; but, in none of these forms can any satisfactory etymon of the name be made.]

Duncan had granted to the monks of Paisley several churches and some lands in Carrick, upon condition that they should establish in that country a monastery of their order; but they having failed to perform this, he founded the abbey of Crossragwell, for Cluniac monks, and transferred to it the churches and lands which he had granted, conditionally, to the monks of Paisley; but after a struggle of some years' duration, this controversy was decided on the 18th July, 1244, by William, the Bishop of Glasgow, who ordained that the monastery of Crosragwell should be exempt from the power of the abbot monks of Paisley, but that they should receive from it ten marks of silver yearly. The endowment of Crosragwell, by the founder, was greatly augmented by additional grants from his son Niel, the second Earl of Carrick, from his grand-daughter, Marjory, Countess of Carrick, and from his great grandsons Robert Brus, the restorer of the Scottish monarchy, and Edward Brus, Earl of Carrick.

[NOTE.—This celebrated lady *(Marjory)* is called *Martha* by Fordoun, and *Margaret* by the peerage writers; but in a charter of Robert I. to this monastery, she is called *Marjorie;* and he gave to his own daughter the name of *Marjorie*, after his mother, according to a usage which long prevailed in Scotland. Marjorie was the only legitimate child of Niel, the second Earl of Carrick, upon whose death, in 1256, she succeeded to the earldom. She married, before 1266, Adam de Kilconachar, who, in her right, was styled Earl of Carrick. He joined in the crusade of 1268, and died at Acon, in Palestine, in 1270, without issue (Chron. Mailros). In 1271 she married Robert Brus, the son of the lord of Annandale, by whom she had a numerous family, and she died in 1292. Her eldest son, Robert Brus, became Earl of Carrick in 1292, by his mother's death and his father's resignation; and after he ascended the Scottish throne he conferred the earldom of Carrick on his younger brother, Edward Brus. The whole of the grants were confirmed to this monastery by several charters of Robert I., which were ratified by three charters of Robert II.]

The monks of Crossragwell obtained from Robert III. in 1404 a charter confirming to them all their churches and lands, to be held in a free regality, with the most ample jurisdiction, comprehending even the four points of

law that belonged to the Crown (Charter dated 24th August, 1404, in the archives of the Earl of Cassillis).

At the epoch of the Reformation the Earl of Cassillis had a lease of the whole property and revenues of this abbey for payment of 700 marks yearly, which was little more than a fourth of its real value.

[NOTE.—The Earl of Cassillis returned the rental of this abbey at £466 13s 4d in money; 18 chalders, 8 bolls of bear; 37 chalders of meal; and 5 chalders of oats; but the real revenues of the abbey amounted to about 2600 marks. At the epoch of the Reformation there belonged to this monastery five parish churches, in Carrick, viz., the churches of Kirkoswald, of Stratoun, of Girvan, of Invertig, of Daily. All these churches with their tithes and lands belonged to the abbey in the thirteenth century.]

The last abbot of Crossragwell was the celebrated Quintin Kennedy, upon whose death, in 1564, George Buchanan obtained from the queen a grant of a pension of £500 yearly, from the revenues of this abbey, for life. (In consequencee of this liberal provision Buchanan was usually styled "Pensioner of Crossragwell"). But the Earl of Cassillis seized possession; and it required all the authority of the Queen and her council to maintain the rights of Buchanan.

[NOTE.—Mr Alan Stewart, a younger son of James Stewart of Cardonald, was afterwards appointed commendator of Crossragwell, but owing to the power and the violence of the Earl of Cassillis, he found much danger and little profit by this appointment. In 1617 the abbey of Crossragwell, with all that remained of its property, was annexed to the bishoprick of Dunblane by Act of Parliament, reserving to Mr Peter Hewat, then commendator of Crossragwell, the revenues during his life.—Act of Parl. IV. 553; V. 72, 566.]

The Abbey appears to have been a large and fine pile of building, though much less than the more opulent abbey of Kilwinnin. At the epoch of the Reformation the abbey of Crossragwell was preserved from demolition or defacement by the influence of Quintin Kennedy and the power of the Earl of Cassillis. Even now it is in a better state of preservation than any other building of the kind in the west of Scotland.

A state of the ruins of this abbey may be seen in Grose's Antiquities and the statistical account of Kirkoswald. The abbey stood in the middle of an enclosure containing about eight Scots acres, which was surrounded by a very strong stone and lime wall that has been almost entirely abolished, as well as the two gates, one on the north and the other on the south-west. This enclosure was called the precinct of Crossragwell, and, vulgarly, the abbots' yard. It now belongs to the *chapel royal*, and has been long let, on leases of nineteen years, to the family of Kilkerran, who are the proprietors of the surrounding estate. The ruins of the abbey are now carefully preserved, the tenants of the circumjacent farms not being allowed to pull down and carry off the stones from the building.

At Mauchlin, in Kyle, there was planted a colony of Cistertian monks, who were brought from Melros abbey, of which Mauchlin formed a distinct cell. The time and the circumstances of this establishment at Mauchlin cannot now be distinctly ascertained. Dugdale, indeed, puts Mauchlin in the list of monasteries which were founded by David I. Spottiswoode, in his catalogue of Religious Houses, says that "Mauchlin, in Kyle, is said to have been founded by David I."

[NOTE.—The charter of foundation is recorded in that chartulary of Melros which was not long since in the hands of the Earl of Haddington; although by another chartulary of Melros, which is yet extant, in the Advocates' Library, it would rather appear that it was the Stewarts who founded Mauchlin and bestowed it upon Melros.]

In the chartulary, indeed, of Melros, in the Advocate's Library, which is very imperfect, there is no foundation charter of Mauchlin by David I. or by any other person; nor does it appear from that chartulary, as Spottiswoode intimates, that the Stewarts founded Mauchlin and gave it to Melros. The fact is that the first Stewart, Walter, the son of Alan, granted to the abbott and monks of Melros *the lands of Machlin*, and pasture in his forest, on the upper branches of the river Ayr, extending to the boundaries of Clydesdale; he also gave them a carrucate of land to improve, in the places most convenient; and he gave them a fishing at the mouth of the river Ayr; all which King William, at the request of the donor, confirmed to the monks.

[NOTE.—Chart Melrose, No. 125. The deed is imperfect, by part of the leaf being torn off; but the subsequent confirmations of it furnish the means of supplying the defects.]

This liberal grant of the first Stewart to the

monks of Melros, was confirmed to them by his son Alan, who succeeded him in 1177; and also by his grandson, the second Walter, who succeeded Alan in 1204, and died in 1241; and it was also confirmed by Alexander II.

None of those charters mention that the first Stewart, or any of his successors, founded a religious house at Mauchlin. It is therefore probable that the convent for Cistertian monks at that place was established by the monks of Melros themselves. Having obtained, as we have seen, from Walter the first Stewart, a grant of the lands of Mauchlin, which were of considerable extent, and also the right of pasturage over the large forest, with the right of improving certain parts, they no doubt planted a colony of their own members at Mauchlin, to manage and improve their property in that quarter, which was afterwards greatly augmented.

From the second Walter the Stewart the monks of Melros obtained a considerable tract of forest land on the south side of the river Ayr, in the east of Kyle, extending from Dolcarnel-burn (now called Polquharmel-burn (the boundary between the present parish of Muirkirk and that of Auchinleck), which falls into the Ayr, to the top of Cairntabel-hill and the boundaries of Lanarkshire, and having the river Ayr for its northern boundary. This tract of land was granted by Walter, the father of Alan the Stewart, to Alan Little for his service, and he having become a *converso (i.e.* a convert to a monastic life) of Melros, his lord, Walter the Stewart, granted his lands to the monks of Melros.

Richard Walence or Waleys, who appears to have been one of the most considerable vassals of the Stewarts in Kyle, granted to the monks of Melros the lands of Barmore and Godeneth, with their pertinents; and this grant was confirmed to them by the second Walter the Stewart. From Alexander the Stewart the monks of Melros obtained a charter confirming to them the lands of Mauchlin and others, which had been granted by his predecessors. (This charter was confirmed by Alexander III. on the 12th of December, 1264.) Alexander the Stewart also granted to them the liberty of buying and selling and taking toll, and other privileges, escheats, and profits in their judicial courts in their lands of Mauchlin, Cairntabel, Barmore, and Godenoth; and this grant was confirmed by a charter of Alexander III.

[NOTE.—They also obtained from the same Alexander III. a charter of their whole lands in Ayrshire, to be held as a *free forest*, with the usual privileges and prohibitions.]

The same monks improved and augmented their extensive property in the north-east of Kyle before mentioned, over which they obtained an ample jurisdiction, so as to hold the whole in a regality, the courts whereof were holden at Mauchlin (the village of which, in the lordship of Kylesmure, was created a free borough of barony in 1510 by James IV.), where they had a cell or convent, which was dependent on their monastery of Melros. They had also the Church of Mauchlin, with the tithes of a very extensive parish belonging to it, all which they held till the Reformation.

In 1587 all these estates were vested in the King by the general Annexation Act. In July, 1606, an Act was passed by Parliament dissolving from the Abbey of Melros the lands and lordships and baronies of Kylesmure beforementioned, and also the Parish Church of Mauchlin, with its pertinents, and converting the whole into a temporal lordship to Hugh Lord Loudoun and his heirs, with all the necessary incidents. The town of Mauchlin was made, by the creation of 1633, the second title of the Earl of Loudoun.

At Dalmulin (the name of which is derived from the Gaelic *Dal-muilean*, signifying the *Mill-field;* there was, in fact, a mill at Dalmulin in early times, and this mill afterwards belonged to the monks of Paisley), on the northern bank of the river Ayr, the second Walter the Stewart founded in 1229 a convent for canons and nuns, of the order of Simpringham, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary. They were brought from Sixile in Yorkshire. They were called Gilbertines, from Gilbert the founder of the order. This was the only establishment of Gilbertines in Scotland. Walter endowed this religious house with many lands, mills, fishings, and other temporal property. He also gave these canons the Church of Dundonald, with the chapels of Crosley and Ricardstown, and the Church of Sanchar, in Kyle. All these grants and privileges were confirmed by Alexander II., at the town of Ayr, in May, 1230. The Gilbertines did not remain long at Dalmulin. Pretending the want of health, they resigned their establishment here, and returned to Yorkshire in 1238.

[NOTE.—For the resignation of their establishment and property in Ayrshire, the Gilbertines of Simpringham were to receive forty marks yearly from the monks of Paisley; but this being very irregularly paid, the Gilbertines transferred it, for a valuable considera-

tion, to Sir William More of Abercorn in 1368.]

The monks of Paisley now contrived to obtain from Walter the Stewart a grant of Dalmulin, with its property and pertinents, on condition of paying 40 marks yearly to the Gilbertines of Simpringham.

[NOTE.—Besides the Church of Dundonald, with its two chapels, and the Church of Sanchar, they also obtained from Walter a grant of the Church of Auchinleck. Before this acquisition the monks of Paisley had a number of churches, with various lands and other properties in Kyle, by the grants of the Stewarts and their vassals.]

The monks of Paisley, as soon as they had secured Dalmulin with its rights, possessed it by a detachment of monks, who held it, as a cell of Paisley, till the Reformation. The ruins of the house of Dalmulin were extant at the beginning of the eighteenth century.

[NOTE.—Spottiswoode seems to have mistakenly placed the cell of Paisley in Ayrshire, at Feale, instead of Dalmulin.]

In 1230, Alexander II. founded in the town of Ayr a convent of Dominican Friars, who were called Black Friars, from their habit, and Preaching Friars, from their profession.

[NOTE.—The seal of this convent, appended to some documents in the archives of the burgh of Ayr, bears the image of St Katherine, who seems to have been the patroness of the convent. The church of the convent was called St Katherine's Kirk.]

The King built them a convent and church in the town of Ayr, and he granted them £20 a year out of the firms of his mills and of his burgh of Ayr.

[NOTE.—There remains in the archives of the corporation of Ayr a precept from Alexander II., 4th August, 1242, to the provosts of Ayr, commanding them to pay to the preaching friars of Ayr £20 yearly, according to the grant.]

Robert I. and Robert II. granted to those friars confirmation of the grants of Alexander, the founder of their house. They appear to have received many grants of property from various persons, and from the corporation of Ayr (see the charters and papers of this convent, preserved in the archives of the burgh of Ayr); and thus the convent became very opulent before the Reformation. The Preaching Friars of Ayr received frequent gratuities from James IV., who was often at Ayr. In 1527 they obtained from James V. a donation of £20 for the repair of the buildings of their convent. After the Reformation, Queen Mary granted in 1567 to the magistrates and community of Ayr, for special purposes, the whole property of the Preaching Friars of Ayr, with the ground whereon their convent stood, and their gardens.

[NOTE.—Charter the 14th April, 1567, in the archives of the burgh of Ayr. This grant was, however, subject to a lease, for 19 years, of this property, which the Queen had granted to Charles Crawford, one of her superior servants; and which was ratified by the Regent Moray, the 1st March, 1567-8. Privy Seal Reg. xxxvii. 41. The Black Friars convent, with their church and gardens, was situated on the side of a lane which was called *the Friars Vennel*, and they had a pigeon-house in the vicinity. Not a vestige of their convent remains.]

The inhabitants of the town of Ayr founded there, in 1472, a convent of Franciscan Friars of the Observantine order, who were properly called Grey Friars, from their habit. These Grey Friars obtained from James IV., when he came to Ayr, many donations. They also received, in 1530, a gift of £10 from James V. A statue of the Virgin Mary in this convent is said to have wrought many miracles, fictions these which, no doubt, gained the Grey Friars some credit and some profit.

[NOTE.—The Grey Friars of Ayr were far less opulent than the Black Friars. Of their convent, which stood near to that of the Black Friars, not the smallest vestige remains. On the site of the Grey Friars convent there was built, in 1654, the present parish church of Ayr.]

At *Feil* or *Faile*, called also *Failfurd*, in the parish of Torbolton, within Kyle, a convent of Red Friars, or Trinity Friars, who pretended to be canons regular, was founded in 1252. They were also called Mathurines, from the house of this order in Paris, which was dedicated to Saint Mathurine; and they were also called "Fratres de redemptione captivorum," as it was a part of their duty to redeem Christian captives from slavery. It is unknown who was the founder of this convent.

The name of the place where this convent was founded appears in the different forms of *Feil*, *Fail*, and *Faile*. A rivulet which passed this convent was called by the same name; and a passage over this rivulet was called *Failfurd*. A lake in the neighbourhood was called

Lochfail. These various names have misled Spottiswoode to put into his Catalogue of Religious Houses three several establishments under the names of *Feale, Faile-furd*, and *Lochfeal;* and the first of these he makes a cell of Cluniac monks belonging to the abbey of Paisley, and the two last he states as convents of Red Friars. There was, indeed, a Church of Fale, in Ayrshire, the patronage whereof belonged to Sir James Lindesay of Crawford during the reign of Robert II.

The chief who ruled the convent was styled *minister.* The *minister* of Fail-furd was provincial of the Trinity order in Scotland. From being the head of the order he appears to have had a seat in Parliament.

[NOTE.—On the 7th of May, 1532, the King granted a precept for the admission of "Fratris Johannis Hamilton, *ministri* de Fail, ad ministralium ejusdem," being appointed thereto by the Pope. On the 9th of January, 1537-8, Sir James Hamilton of Finnart obtained a grant of the temporal revenues of the *ministry* of Fail, which was then vacant, by the death of John Hamilton, until the lawful appointment of a *minister.* In 1540, Robert Cunningham, at the age of 22, a bastard son of William, the Earl of Glencairn, was appointed *minister* of Failford, vacant by the decease of John Hamilton, the last *minister.*—Epist. Reg. Scot. II. 86-7. The *minister* of Failfurd, Robert Cunningham, sat in Parliament among the clergy in 1546 and in 1560. On the 6th March, 1563-4, Robert Cunningham, the minister of Fail, obtained a yearly pension of £100 from the Queen's casualties during life, or until he be provided with a benefice of 100 marks yearly.]

The rental of the *ministry* of Failford, as given up by Robert Cunningham, the minister, in 1562, amounted to £174 6s 8d in money; 3 chalders of bear; 15 chalders 4 bolls of meal; 30 stones of cheese; 10 hogs (young sheep); 3 stirks (young bullocks); two dozen grilses, or salmon. There belonged to this convent five parish churches, viz., the churches of Barnwell, Symontoun, and Galstoun, in Kyle; of Torthorwald, in Dumfriesshire; and the church of Inverchaslan, in Argyleshire, the profits whereof were let to the laird of Lamont for 26 marks yearly, of which he had not paid one penny for six years.

[NOTE.—The patronage of the church of Garrel, in Dumfriesshire, appears also to have belonged to this convent in 1565.]

When the said rental was given up, "twa puir men" lived in the convent, and had £22 yearly for their subsistence. Four "auld beidmen of the convent," who lived out of the place, received each of them 11 bolls of meal and 12 bolls of malt yearly, and eight marks each of habits silver and eithing silver. William Wallace, minister of Failfurd, during the reign of James VI., died in 1617, and his son William seems to have considered this monastery and what remained of its property as his inheritance. In August, 1619, there was a grant to Mr Walter Whyteford of the benefice of the *ministrie* of Failfurd. The grant was ratified in 1621 by Parliament.

[NOTE.—There was another ratification by Parliament in June, 1633. The person who was thus favoured was Doctor Walter Whyteford, one of the King's chaplains, and subdean of Glasgow.]

In October, 1690, William, Earl of Dundonald, was served heir of his father, John, Earl of Dundonald, in the benefice of Failfurd, as well temporalitie as spiritualite. The ruins of the convent are still extant, near to a hamlet called Fail, or Feale.

There was established in Irvine a convent of Carmelites, or White Friars, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It is said to have been founded, in the fourteenth century, by Fullerton of Fullerton.

[NOTE.—By a contract which was made at Irvine on the 24th of August, 1399, between Reynald Fullerton of Fullerton and the provincial and brethren of the Carmelite friars in Irvine, Reynald engaged to pay 40 marks for meliorating and upholding the houses of the said convent, and for repairing the principal church and cloister; and the friars engaged to say weekly, in all time coming, on the Lord's day or on any other fast day, in the beginning of a mass, at the great altar, with an audible voice, for the souls of Sir Adam Fullerton and Marjory his wife, and for Reynald Fullerton and Elizabeth his wife, and their heirs and successors, and for the souls of all the faithful deceased.]

Reynald Fullerton of Crossby and Dreghorn granted to the same White Friars at Irvine an annual rent of six marks and ten shillings yearly from his lands; and this was confirmed by a charter of Robert III. After the Reformation, the houses, property, and revenues of the Carmelite Friars at Irvine were granted to the burgh and burgesses of Irvine on the 8th of June, 1572, with the property of all chapels, chaplainries, altarages, prebends, or colleges within the liberty of the said burgh. This

grant was ratified in Parliament on the 17th of November, 1641.

In 1371, Sir John Kennedy, "dominus de Dunoure," with the authority of Walter, Bishop of Glasgow, founded near the cemetery of the parish church of Maybole a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and endowed it with 18 mark lands contiguous to the said chapel; 18 bolls of meal of dry multure, yearly, from his lands; ten marks sterling, yearly, from the lands of Balmaclewhane; the five mark lands of Barrycloych; the six mark lands of Trenchan; and the five mark lands of Barrelach—all for the support of the said chapel: and of one clerk and three chaplains to celebrate divine service in the same, for the safety of him and Mary his wife, and his children, during their lives, and for their souls after their deaths, and for the souls of all his ancestors and successors, and of all the faithful deceased persons. The patronage was to remain with him and his heirs; but, if they failed to present within four months of a vacancy, the presentation was to fall to the bishop of Glasgow. The charter of Sir John, which was dated at Dunoure, the 29th of November, 1371, was confirmed by a charter of Robert II. on the 4th December, 1371.

[NOTE.—It was also confirmed by John, Earl of Carrick, the king's eldest son, on the 27th of December, 1371. Spottiswoode, in his Catalogue of Religious Houses, has mistakingly stated that this foundation was made by Sir Gilbert Kennedy of Dunnure, in 1441, who granted to it his lands of Larglanlen and Brocklach, in Carrick. The fact is that on the 18th May, 1451, Sir Gilbert Kennedy granted to God and to St Ninian the lands of Larganlen and Brocklach, *for the support of a chaplain, to perform divine service in the church of Maybole*; and this was confirmed by a charter from the King, on the 23rd of May, 1451. This was merely the foundation of a chaplainry, which was dedicated to St Ninian, in the church of Maybole, and not the foundation of the collegiate chapel of Maybole, which had been made by Sir Gilbert's predecessor, 80 years before.]

The collegiate chapel, which was thus founded at Maybole in 1371, appears to have been the first establishment of this kind in Scotland. Though it was called a chapel when founded, and for some time after, yet it was afterwards called, like the other establishments of this nature, a collegiate church, and the clerk and chaplains were styled the provost and prebendaries of Maybole.

[NOTE. Sir David Robertson was provost of the collegiate church of Maybole, in the end of the reign of James III. and beginning of the reign of James IV., and died in or before 1494. On the 17th of February, 1501-2, David Kennedy, the son and apparent heir of John Lord Kennedy, obtained, on his father's resignation, a charter of the lands and baronies of Cassillis and Dunure, &c., "with the right of patronage, advocation, and donation of the provostry of the collegiate church of Maybole, and of the prebends of the same." In 1525, Mr Walter Kennedy, rector of Douglas and canon of Glasgow, was elected rector of the university of Glasgow, and made provost of the collegiate church of Maybole. M'Farlane's M.S. Notes from the Chartulary of the College of Glasgow.]

The patronage continued with the family of the founder, who obtained the dignity of Lord Kennedy between 1452 and 1459, and Earl of Cassillis in 1510.

On the 14th of November, 1516, a charter was granted to Gilbert, Earl of Cassillis, and to the provost and prebendaries of the collegiate church of Maybole, creating this town a free burgh of barony. The ground on which Maybole stands belonged to this collegiate church. Maybole is now a populous place, and is the chief town of Carrick.

The value of the provostry and prebends of this collegiate church, given up at the Reformation, was as follows: the provostry, £20 in money, and 72 bolls of meal, yearly. Sir John Kennedy's prebend, £25 yearly. Andrew Gray's prebend, called the third stall, 54 marks yearly. The value of the other prebend is not stated. The provost and prebendaries enjoyed the income of their benefices, with the deduction of a third, during their lives. The whole property of this collegiate church of Maybole was taken possession of by the Earl of Cassillis, who was the patron of the establishment; but he was obliged to pay out of it 76 marks yearly, being the assignation from the thirds of benefices to the minister of the parish church of Maybole. The collegiate church of Maybole has long been a ruin; but the walls are still standing; and the area within them is still used as the burying place of the family of Cassillis.

There was founded at Kilmaurs, in Cunningham, a collegiate church for a provost, six prebendaries (*eight*, according to Spottiswoode), and two singing boys, by Sir William Cunningham of Kilmaurs, who endowed this establishment with lands, and revenues, and a mill, in the vicinity, by a charter of the 13th of May, 1403.

[NOTE.—The mill was called the Prebendary Mill; and a district of the parish of Kilmaurs was astricted to grind its corn at this favoured mill, the profits whereof belonged to the prebendaries.]

The patronage of this establishment belonged to the founder and his descendants, the Lords of Kilmaurs, and Earls of Glencairn. After the Reformation, the property of this establishment was taken possession of by the Earl of Glencairn, the patron.

At *Kilcaiss*, which is now called *Kincase*, or Kingcase, on the coast of Kyle, in the parish of Prestwick, there was founded an hospital for leprous persons, which was dedicated to St Ninian.

[NOTE.—During the reign of James V., the name of this hospital in various charters was *Kilcaiss*, *Kilkayis*, and *Kylecaise*. In more recent times the popular name has been Kincase or King Case, the last of which it probably obtained from the tradition of its having been founded by King Robert Bruce. The origin of the first name is far from obvious. In the Scoto-Irish, *Cil*, or *Kil*, signifies a retreat, a cell, and also a chapel or church; and *Cas* signifies the plague; so *Kil-cas* would signify the retreat of the plague. But this place was founded for *lepers*; and *Lobhar* is the Scoto-Irish word for a leper, and *Laibhre* for the leprosy.]

Tradition relates that the founder of this establishment was King Robert Bruce, who was himself afflicted with the leprosy, the result of hard fare, hard living, and hard work. This hospital was endowed with the lands of *Robert-lone*, which is now called *Loans*, in Dundonald parish; with the lands of Sheles, and Spital Sheles, in Kyle Stewart, and with other lands, which cannot now be specified. As the foundation charter of this hospital does not exist, it cannot be ascertained what number of persons were originally maintained in it. It appears, however, to have been governed by a guardian, or prior, and it had a chaplain. In the reign of James II., Wallace of Newton acquired the lands of Spital Sheles, which belonged to this hospital, as the name implies, and the hereditary office of keeper, or governor, of the hospital, and of the lands belonging to it.

[NOTE.—How Wallace obtained, from James II., a charter of the lands of Spitalshiels, which pertained before to the hospital of Kylecass, to be held in feu, of the Stewart of Scotland, for payment to the said hospital of eight marks, and sixteen threaves of straw yearly.]

In January, 1515-16, all these were resigned by Hugh Wallace of Newton in favour of his brother Adam.

[NOTE.—On the 30th of January, 1515-16, Adam Wallace obtained a charter of all those objects, in consequence of his brother's resignation. In May, 1530, William Hamilton of Macnairstoun obtained a charter of appreciation of the whole lands of this hospital, which were appreciated at 240 marks, in part payment of a larger sum due from Adam Wallace to William Hamilton. Edward Stewart obtained a charter from Arthur, the prior of the hospital of St Ninian, called Kilcaiss, and the convent of the same, granting to him the eight mark lands of *Robertlone*, and the eight mark lands of *Scheles*, in Kyle Stewart, and this was confirmed by a charter under the great seal, on the 13th September, 1538.]

After the whole property of this hospital was thus granted away, the only revenue that remained to it was the feu-duties payable from the lands, in this manner granted, in fee firm, and these, amounting to 64 bolls of meal, and 8 marks Scots, in money, with sixteen threaves of straw, for thatching the hospital, are still paid. For more than two centuries past this diminished revenue has been shared among eight objects of charity, in equal shares of eight bolls of meal and one mark Scots to each. The leprosy having long disappeared, the persons who are now admitted to the benefit of this charity are such as labour under diseases which are considered as incurable, or such as are in indigent circumstances. The right of granting these belonged to the family of Wallace of Craigie for a long time, and was purchased, about 1790, by the burgh of Ayr, which still holds this patronage. The old hospital, which existed in the better days of this charity, has been long in ruins. In the description of Kyle, by Robert Gordon, in the reign of Charles I., he mentions the chapel of this establishment, and says that the persons admitted to the charity were then lodged in huts or cottages in the vicinity.

There were formerly an hospital and chapel dedicated to St. Leonard at a place called Donislee, or Doonslee, within the jurisdiction of the burgh of Ayr, and not far north of the river Doon. It is unknown when or by whom this establishment was founded, and nothing further can be ascertained of its original constitution than that it was an hospital dedicated to St.

Leonard, the usual patron of such charities, and that it had, like other places of the same kind in former times, a chapel and a chaplain. In the reign of James IV. and James V. and Queen Mary, the chaplain appears to have been also master of the hospital, whose appointment belonged to the Crown, as appears from the Privy Seal Register. The ruins of St. Leonard's were extant when Timothy Pont made his survey of Kyle in the reign of Charles I. There is no notice of this establishment in Spottiswoode's Catalogue of Hospitals.

[Note.—On the 26th of May, 1506, Sir David Ouchterlony, chaplain, obtained an appointment to the hospital of St. Leonard of Donislee, near the burgh of Ayr, upon the resignation of Sir Florentine Auchinleck. On the 29th of November, 1511, Sir George Blair was appointed to the chaplainry and hospital of St. Leonard, which was vacant by the decease of Sir Florentine Auchinleck. On the 28th of September, 1529, Mr William Hamilton was appointed to the chaplainry, which was vacant by the decease of Sir John Campbell. On the 28th of July, 1547, Sir Thomas Raith was appointed to the chaplainry, vacant by the resignation of Mr Bernard Hamilton.—Privy Seal Reg.]

There was before the Reformation a religious establishment which was called popularly "Our Lady of Kyle," but the time of the foundation or the nature of it cannot now be ascertained. It stood on the common pasture lands of the manor or barony of Adamtoun, about three quarters of a mile south of the mansion-house of Adamtoun. The building formed a square, having turrets upon each corner; and there was a chapel in the middle of the square. The chapel was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, from which it obtained the popular name of "Our Lady Kirk." In a charter of James IV., in 1490, it is called "Capella de le Grace." In a grant of the same King, in 1505, which is entered in the Privy Seal Register, in the Scottish language, it is called "the Preceptory of our Lady Kirk of Kyle." There appears to have been connected with this establishment a *Pardoner*, who was popularly called "Our Lady of Kyle's Pardoner," and he seems, like other pardoners, to have travelled the country for the sale of his pardons. On the 8th of December, 1511, the King, then being at Edinburgh, gave a gratuity of 3 shillings "to Our Lady of Kyle's Pardoner." On the same day he gave a gratuity of 5 shillings "to a Pardoner with St. Dutho's *coup* (*i. e.*, cup). On the 24th of the same month the King gave 14 shillings to a Pardoner in Leith. The Pardoner is one of the characters brought forward, and held up to ridicule, by Sir David Lyndesay, in his satyre of *The Three Estates*.

Our Lady Kirk of Kyle appears to have been a place of some note before the Reformation. James IV. never passed through that part of the country without making an offering at "Our Lady's Kirk of Kyle," generally giving 14 shillings at a time.

[Note.—In the Treasurer's Accounts there are numerous entries of such offerings at this noted establishment. On the 6th of July, 1497, the King gave an offering of 14 shillings "in Our Lady's Kirk of Kyle." In September of the same year, when the King was again at "Our Lady Kirk of Kyle," the Treasurer gave £5 for five trentales of masses to be there said for the King. And he gave 16d to the pure folk at the same place.]

The patronage of Our Lady's Kirk of Kyle belonged to the family of Blair of Adamtoun, who were proprietors of the barony in which it was situated. They acquired this estate of Adamtoun in the reign of David II., but whether Lady Kirk was in existence then does not appear. They certainly held the patronage of Our Lady Kirk during the reigns of James III. and James IV., and as low down as the Reformation. Long after the reform of such establishments the same family maintained their right to the patronage of this establishment, and they had it inserted as usual in their several charters.

[Note.—On the 2nd of July, 1669, Charles II., as prince and Stewart of Scotland, granted a new charter to David Blair of Adamtoun of the 20-pound lands, of old extent, of Adamtoun, with the right of patronage of the Lady Kirk, in Kyle Stewart.]

The ruins of Lady Kirk are still extant, though much dilapidated. One of the old turrets, and a part of the old chapel, still remain. They are in the garden, near to a mansion named *Ladykirk*, the seat of the proprietor of the lands of Lady Kirk, which were formerly a part of the barony of Adamtoun. There appears to have been a cemetery at Lady Kirk, as many human bones have been found when digging near the ruins.

The whole of Ayrshire was formerly comprehended in the bishoprick of Glasgow, and it formed three deaneries, corresponding with the three divisions of the country, viz., the deanery of Cunningham, the deanery of Kyle, and the deanery of Carrick.

After the Reformation, the parishes of Ayrshire were formed into several presbyteries. In 1581 there were in this county four presbyteries: Ayr, Irvine, Maybole, and Colmonell. But the last one included several parishes in the west of Wigtonshire. These four presbyteries then formed *the Synod of Ayr*.

This arrangement was afterwards changed. From the presbyteries' report to the Assembly in 1593, it appears that there were then only two presbyteries in Ayrshire, namely, those of Ayr and Irvine, which comprehended all the parishes in Ayrshire. This arrangement has continued to the present time, only that in 1699 the parishes of Ballantrae and Colmonell, in the south of Carrick, were detached from the presbytery of Ayr and annexed to the presbytery of Stranraer and synod of Galloway. The presbytery of Irvine now contains 17 parishes, being the whole 16 parishes of Cunningham and the parish of Cumbray, in the shire of Bute. The presbytery of Ayr contains no fewer than 28 parishes, being the whole of the 21 parishes of Kyle and seven of the parishes of Carrick. The remaining two parishes of Carrick, viz., Colmonell and Ballantrae, are included in the presbytery and synod of Galloway. The two presbyteries of Ayr and of Irvine are included in the synod of Glasgow and Ayr.

AYR.

The Presbytery of Ayr, as we have seen, contains 28 parishes. The parish of Ayr obtained its name from the town, and the town from the river. The town of Ayr, where a hamlet may have stood even from Roman times, was established by William the Lion, in 1197. And a few years after, he granted a charter to the burgesses of this town, as a royal burgh.

[NOTE.—See the engraved charter, which is dated at Lanark on the 21st of May, without a year. From the witnesses, however, it appears to have been granted between the years 1202 and 1207.]

The ancient church of Ayr was probably founded at the same time with the town; and it was dedicated to St John the Baptist, who was regarded as the patron saint of the town, till the Reformation cast discredit on all such observances. A fair was annually held at Ayr, on the 24th of June, the festival of St John; and St John's Fair is still held yearly on the last Tuesday of June, old style. There were schools here, in very early times, of some celebrity.

[NOTE.—The deans of Carrick and Cunningham, "et magister scolarum de Are," gave judgment against Dufgal, in 1224, in pursuance of a mandate from the Pope. Chart. Paisley, 284.]

In the charter of William, above mentioned, besides the rights and privileges which were conferred on the burgesses of Ayr, he granted them a large tract of land in the vicinity of the town, on the south side of the river Ayr. This formed the parish of Ayr, and the church of St John was the parish church. This church and parish formed a rectory, or parsonage; the patronage whereof belonged to the crown.

In 1292, on the 28th of November, Edward I. issued a writ to Walter, *the rector of the church of Ayr*, and Mr Richard de Lanerk, rector of the church of Rathern, to take the extent of the lands which had belonged to the late Alexander, Earl of Buchan, and Dervorgil of Galloway, late Lady Baliol.

[NOTE.—Rot. Scotiae I. 12. Mr William de Lyndesey, a canon of Glasgow and Dunkeld, was presented to the Rectory of Ayr by Robert I.; and Lyndesey was chamberlain of Scotland during a considerable time, in that reign, before 1322. In 1324 or 1325, he built *a chapel at Ayr*, which he dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and endowed it with 10 marks, yearly, for the support of a priest, to perform divine service in the said chapel. In the charter granting the above he is designed Wilhelmus de Lyndesey, canonicus Glasguensis, ac *rector ecclesiae de Are*, atque dominus de Kirkconel, in valle de Nith. et de Leteny." Mr David Levingston, the rector of Ayr, was keeper of the Privy Seal, under James III., from February 1482-3 till 1488.]

The rectory of Ayr appears to have been of great value. A prebend was founded in the cathedral church of Glasgow, from the fruits of the parsonage of Ayr, as early as the 14th century. In a *taxatio* of the prebends of that cathedral, in 1401, the prebend of Ayr was taxed £5. The patronage of this prebend belonged to the King.

[NOTE.—Privy Seal Reg. II. 134., III. 83. On the 31st of October, 1531, Andrew Lockhart obtained from the King a presentation to the rectory, and prebend of Ayr canonry, within the church of Glasgow, vacant by the resignation of Mr William Stewart, provost of Lincluden. He had been several years rector of Ayr, and prebendary of Glasgow. He was made dean of Glasgow about 1529, provost of Lincluden, and treasurer of Scot-

land in 1530, bishop of Aberdeen in 1532, and died in April, 1545.]

After the rectory of Ayr was established a prebend of Glasgow, the church was served by a vicar, assisted by a chaplain, till 1449, when a curate was established in place of the vicar. There were, besides, on the establishment of the church of Ayr, a number of chaplains who officiated at the different altars; and there were several choristers, or singing boys, with an organist at their head, who played on the organs, sang in the choir, and taught a singing school in the town. (Records of the Burgh of Ayr.)

In Bagimont's Roll, as it stood in the reign of James V., there was among the prebends of the chapter of Glasgow "Rectoria de Ayr," which was taxed £26 13s 4d, the tenth of the estimated value. In the beginning of the 16th century, when James IV. refounded and greatly enlarged the establishment of the chapel royal at Stirling, he appears to have endowed some of the prebends of that establishment from the fruits of the rectory of Ayr.

[NOTE.—Privy Seal Reg. III. 51. There were no fewer than six prebends of the chapel royal called by the name of Ayr; as Ayr prima, Ayr secunda, Ayr tertia, Ayr quarto, Ayr quinto, and Ayr sexto. But they do not appear to have been all endowed from the rectory of Ayr; as two of them were endowed from the revenues of the church of Coylton, in Kyle; and these two were sometimes called Ayr prima and Ayr secunda, and sometimes Coylton prima, and Coylton secunda.]

In St John's church at Ayr, the parliament met in 1315 on the Sunday before the festival of St James, on the 26th of April; and settled the succession to the crown on Edward Bruce, the Earl of Carrick, the King's gallant brother. In St John's church there were a number of altars, each of which had its chaplain, who were endowed by pious persons, to officiate at them.

[NOTE.—The four principal altars in the church of Ayr were those dedicated to the Holy Trinity, to the Holy Cross, to the Holy Blood, and to the Virgin Mary. There were other four altars in this church, dedicated to St Michael, to St Nicholas, to St Peter, and to St Ninian. All these existed long before the craftsmen dedicated an altar to their patron saint. Records of the burgh of Ayr; Robertson's Index, p. 14, 21.]

The deacons of the several trades of Ayr founded, in honour of God, the Virgin Mary, and all saints, an altar in the parish church of Ayr, which they dedicated to St. Anna, St. Eloy, and other saints, who were the supposed patrons of the said trades. They obtained from the magistrates of the town of Ayr a rollment of court, granting to the trades certain privileges and freedoms for upholding the said altar. And all these transactions were confirmed by James V. on the 17th of June, 1532.

[NOTE.—James IV., who was often at Ayr, made numerous offerings in *St. John's Kirk*. When he was at Ayr in September, 1497, his treasurer gave 20s to the priests to say a *trentale of masses of St. John* for the King.—Treasurer's Accounts.]

The chaplainry of this altar of the trades was, at the Reformation, valued at 20 marks yearly. St. John's Church of Ayr stood between the town and the sea, in what is now called *the Citadel*. This church, and the town, was formerly exposed to great danger, from the blowing of the sand, by violent winds. This appears to have created great alarm during the reign of Robert II., when the bones of the cemetery were laid open by the winds. In order to excite the ingenuity and exertion of individuals, to stop this ravage, Robert II., in December, 1380, granted a charter, giving to any one who should prevent the blowing of the sand the right of property of all the waste land, where the sand should be settled, and the place rendered habitable. This charter, which is preserved in the archives of the town, is printed by Grose. St. John's Church withstood the sand, and continued to be the parish church till Cromwell overpowered the Scottish forces, when, to the great horror of the people of Ayr, he took possession of the church, which he converted into a storehouse, and built, at a vast expense, a regular fortification around in order to overawe the western country. The fortification enclosed an area of ten or twelve acres, and was surrounded by a wet ditch, which had a drawbridge over it on the side next the town. Being thus deprived of their ancient church by this barbarian in 1652, the inhabitants were assessed for building a new church. And the same destroyer, in order to quiet discontent, granted 1000 marks to aid them in building the new church. This was accordingly erected, on the site of the Gray Friars' Convent, in 1654, and this continues to be the parish church to the present time.

[NOTE.—The whole expense of building and finishing this church, and enclosing the churchyard with a stone wall, amounted to £20,827 1s Scottish money.]

After the Reformation, the Earl of Eglinton obtained a grant of Cromwell's fort, which was called the Citadel, and included the ancient church. This grant was made to compensate the Earl for the losses which he said he had sustained, as if every one had not sustained loss during the usurping powers of Scotland and the conquest of Cromwell. This property passed from the Earl of Eglinton to the Earl of Cassillis, and it now contains within it a kiln and a brewery, which, in 1798, paid the Earl, yearly, £50 rent. The church of St. John was allowed to fall into ruins, but the cemetery belonging to it was still used as a burial place in the 18th century. The tower of the old church now stands alone; but, from tracing the foundation of the old church, it appears to have been built in the form of a cross. (See Grose's Antiq. II. 194-6, wherein he has given a view of the ruin of this ancient structure.) At the Reformation a Protestant minister was settled at Ayr, and not many years after a second minister was added. The stipend of the first was assigned from the tiends of the parish, and the King is patron. The stipend of the second was assigned, in money, from the rents of certain mills which had belonged to the friars of Ayr, and were granted to the town of Ayr for that purpose by the Roman Catholic Mary in 1567, and the patronage of the second benefice was vested in the Town Council and Kirk Session.

The small parish of *Alloway* lay on the north side of the Doon, and between that river and the parish of Ayr. In 1236 Alexander II. granted to the burgesses of Ayr the lands of Auleway, of Cortoun, and Corcloy.

[NOTE.—Charter 20th April, 1236, in the archives of the burgh of Ayr.—On the 20th of January, 1323-4, Robert I. granted to the Corporation of Ayr a charter of confirmation for these lands to be held in a barony. The barony of Alloway, thus formed, was co-extensive with the parish of Alloway.]

All these lay on the northern side of the Doon, Cortoun and Corcloy being higher up than Alloway. Grose says, without any authority, that Alloway is one of the oldest parishes in Scotland. In the beginning of the 16th century, when James IV. refounded and enlarged the establishment of the chapel royal at Stirling, he annexed to it *the church of Alloway, in Kyle*, which formed the prebend of one of the canons of that collegiate chapel. This continued even after the Reformation. The patronage of this prebend belonged to the King, who continued patron of the church of Alloway after it ceased to be connected with the chapel royal. The parish of Alloway being small, and the stipend inadequate for the support of a minister, it was annexed to the adjoining parish of Ayr in 1690, and its stipend of 600 marks Scots was shared between the two ministers of Ayr.

[NOTE.—The glebe of Alloway, consisting of four acres, was assigned to the second minister of Ayr, the first minister having the glebe of Ayr. In 1754 the glebe of Alloway was resigned to the magistrates of Ayr for a perpetual annual rent of £40 Scots (£3 6s 8d sterling), to be paid to the second minister.]

The church of Alloway was now allowed to become ruinous. It stands on the northern bank of Doon, near the bridge which crosses that river, on the road from Ayr to Maybole, in Carrick. A good view of it, which was taken in 1789, is given by Grose. The walls were then standing, a small part of the roof remained, and the bell continued in the belfry. The magistrates of Ayr attempted to remove the bell, but the good people of Alloway repelled the attempt by open force. This ruined church has long been notorious, in the superstitious belief of the country, as a haunt of witches, and many ridiculous stories were told of their nocturnal gambols here. On one of these stories Burns founded his humorous poem of "Tam o' Shanter," which has given celebrity to "Alloway's auld haunted kirk."

[SPECIAL NOTE.—*Up to this point the "Notes" have been those of Chalmers, the author of "Caledonia." We have now reached a stage at which it becomes necessary to deal, not only with "Caledonia," but with the Statistical Accounts; and the editor of this collection must therefore assume responsibility for the Notes that follow.*]

[NOTE.—Ayr is partially dealt with in the first volume of the Statistical Account, which was issued in the year 1791. As will be seen, the contribution, which bears to be that of the Rev. Dr Dalrymple and the Rev. Dr M'Gill, is comparatively meagre; and this seems itself to have occurred to Dr M'Gill. The twenty-first volume, published in 1799, contains a much better and fuller account of the town than that which follows, which is the joint contribution of both clergymen of the collegiate charge.

Chalmers borrowed very considerably from the Statistical Account. And, as there seems to be no necessity for any repetition of what has already been given, I have excised the



opening sentences from the contribution of Dr Dalrymple and Dr M'Gill. That, otherwise, is as follows:—]

Parish of Air.

(By the Rev. Dr Dalrymple, and the Rev. Dr M'Gill.)

Climate and Diseases.—The air, upon the whole, is rather moist, owing to the clouds, which are wafted by the south-west wind from the Atlantic Ocean. With a west wind, which is often the case, little or no rain falls upon the parish of Air; the clouds being broken on the highest point of the Isle of Arran. About the time of the Equinox, there are frequently high winds. In spring there are often long tracts of cold winds, which blow from the north-east and the north. Though the climate is salubrious in general, yet persons of a consumptive habit ought to dwell at a distance from the parish of Air. A sea voyage gives the best chance of recovery. The common distempers incident to children prove less fatal here than in neighbouring towns. No fields can be more commodious for walking, or the healthful exercises of riding and golfing. Wise parents send out their children early to sport upon turf full of different sorts of clover, particularly the yellow and the white. Once or twice within these 40 years, a dangerous sore throat, accompanied with a putrid fever, has been epidemical.

Lakes and Mineral Springs.—There are two small lakes, one toward the south-side, named *Carleny*, and the other at the eastern extremity, called *Loch-Fergus*, which is mentioned in the town's charter about 600 years ago. It appears that some considerable edifice has stood in its vicinity, out of the ruins of which several houses have been built. It has a small isle in the middle, and probably was a *herenry*. In this lake are pike and eels, but few trouts. There is a mineral spring on the north side of the river, found out near 50 years ago, and still used by a few poor people. It comes from a mixture of coal and iron, and has been thought efficacious in several disorders.

Fish.—Haddock and cod have been very plentiful on Air coast since the herrings left it: mackarel has been scarce for some years past: soals and turbot are rare. White fish are generally sold at 1d per English pound. The price of salmon in January, and till the month of March, is between 6d and 3d per pound. They are much scarcer than formerly, owing, it is supposed, to the liming of land. The price is kept high, too, on account of their being carried to Kilmarnock, Irvine, Glasgow, and chiefly Paisley. Forty years ago herrings were caught in great numbers, and sold from 6d to 3d per hundred. Sail-fish of large size are sometimes taken, whence are got oils for tanners. The season for white fish is through the whole year, except about six weeks from the end of March till the beginning of May, old stile. When herrings were caught at the mouth of Air river, a lamp was usually placed there. This lamp was of great use in preventing shipwrecks; and the loss of several lives, and loaded vessels, at the end of the year 1789, may be imputed to the want of it.

Cultivation and Produce.—Very little ground in this parish now lies waste or common. Between 80 and 90 acres, free to every burgess, for feeding milk cows, was lately inclosed. About 20 acres of common was feued from the town little more than 30 years ago, at £112 sterling, with 18s 9d of feu-duty. Being brought into good tillage, and finely planted, it sold in 1790 for £1100 sterling. Thirty years ago there was much heath towards the east; it is now green, or yielding crops. Sea-weed is thrown in plentifully by winter storms, and much used in manuring land. Marle, in the higher grounds, is got in abundance, and is of great advantage, as there is little lime but what is imported from Ireland. Oats are sown from the end of February to the end of March; pease and beans are sown in April; barley in May and June. Wheat sown before winter is commonly first reaped towards the end of August. The parish is scarcely able to supply itself with provisions, as appears from importations, and no great decrease of price. Little flax is raised, at least for sale. A considerable quantity of artificial grasses is raised with great success. Most of the wood in the parish is young, but thriving well.

Population.—It appears from the records of the Sailors Society that, when wine was imported at Ayr from France, the population was much greater than at present. When a plague broke out here, near 200 years ago, according to tradition, about 2000 died. In 1745 the inhabitants were reckoned about 2000. The return to Dr Webster, in 1755, was 2964 souls. Trade since that time revived, particularly tobacco, which added considerably to the populatiion. Inclosing took place much about the same time; and in the years 1747, 1748, 1749, and 1750, the herring fishing was great. Sailors, coopers, &c., were of course numerous. Upon the whole, the inhabitants

have been increasing sensibly, though not rapidly, for more than 30 years past. The number of examinable persons in the parish, reckoning from 7 years of age and upwards, is above 3400. Of these there are 3000 in the town, and the remainder in the country. The number of souls may therefore be stated at about 4100 souls.

Many of the inhabitants are between 70 and 100 years of age. One walked to London after his 100th year; another above 100 died a few months ago.

Abstract of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, at different periods.

Years.	Births.			Mar.	Deaths.			
	M.	F.	Tot.		Men.	Wom.	Chil.	Tot.
1604— 5	146	128	274					
1688— 9	128	131	259	34				
1698— 9	91	88	179	41				
1715—16	82	97	179	3				
1734—35	100	90	190	42	39	49	39	127
1745—46	90	86	176	49				
1756—57	112	107	219	54				
1767—68	112	133	255	66	33	41	45	119
1777—78	168	110	278	53	38	48	60	146
1788—89	117	113	230	89	47	45	65	157

There are above 600 inhabited houses in the parish. The number of heritors is about 60. There are 2 ministers of the Established Church, 2 Moravians, 1 Episcopalian, and 1 Methodist. There are 2 physicians, 3 surgeons and apothecaries, and about 16 writers. The seceders amount to about 50 or 60.

State of the Poor.—Weekly collections and other parish funds put it in the power of the session to distribute £100 *per annum*. The town gives £30, the sailors £10, the writers £5, the merchants £3; and other small corporations contribute to the extent of £14 or £15; besides which, there is a half year's *stent* of £50. The session retains, for occasional charities among poor tradesmen and others, about £20. If any part of this sum is saved at the end of the year, it is added to the funds of the Charity-house. This house was built by subscription in 1756, and is fit to receive 60 persons; but, as many pensioners prefer a small weekly allowance out of the house, there are seldom more than 40 in it. Alderman Smith of Londonderry, born at Air, left £100 several years ago to purchase land for poor housekeepers. This charity has proved very seasonable. Provost Cochrane of Glasgow, born and educated at Air, left likewise £100, the interest of which is appointed to be given to a reputable burgess's widow or daughter during life. An infirmary and bridewell are much wanted.

Price of Labour and Provisions.—A labourer, with a wife and 5 children, is able to earn 7s per week, and sometimes a little more. At an average he purchases 3 pecks of meal, and a greater quantity of potatoes, half a cart of coals, and soap to the value of 2d per week; 3 stone of wool, at 7s 6d the stone, for clothing, and 10 lb. of lint, at 10d per lb. *per annum*. His wife's attendance on the children prevents her from earning much. This may serve as a general specimen of the wages and expenses of a labourer's family. A shoemaker, if industrious, gets from 1s 2d to 1s 8d a-day; a mason from 1s 3d to 1s 8d; a wright from 1s 3d to 1s 9d; a tailor 1s 2d. The price of provisions is more than doubled within these last 50 years. Beef and mutton is now from 4d to 5d per lb. Lamb is from 1s 3d to 2s 6d per quarter; pork 6d per lb.; veal from 4d to 6d; pigs from 2s 6d to 3s; geese 2s; ducks from 9d to 1s; chickens 4d, and sometimes less; rabbits 9d; butter from 6d to 8d per lb.; cheese from 4d to 6d; wheat from 21s to 25s per boll; barley from 18s to 20s; oats from 16s to 18s.

Church and Stipend.—The present church was built in 1564, and is kept in good repair by the magistrates. The old church, stiled St John Baptist's, was converted by Oliver Cromwell into an armory; for which he gave an allowance of 1000 English merks to build another. It was in St John Baptist's church that the parliament met to confirm Bruce's title to the throne. Records of their sederunt shew that numbers of the nobility could only sign their initials. The senior minister's living, including the glebe, is about £130 *per annum*. The King is patron. The town generally allows the senior minister 12 guineas for a house. The legal stipend of his colleague would scarcely amount to £75; but, from regard to him who at present fills the charge, the magistrates and council, besides allowance for a house, have added a sum which makes his stipend £105. The town council and session are patrons.

Miscellaneous Observations.—There are no volcanic appearances in this parish, unless large rocks, and fragments of rocks, which have numerous indented stones or metals of different kinds, be considered as such. Various figured stones and petrifactions have been found in the parish. There is a considerable quantity of moor-stone lying on the surface of the ground. The free-stone lies rather deep. Some houses in the town let at £20, but a greater number between that sum and £10. The rent of the salmon fishery in the river Doon is £80; that in the river Air a little less. The markets here are

good. The common fuel is coal. The price paid at the pit, per cart, is from 2s 3d to 2s 6d. The one pit is half a mile distant, and the other rather more. That at Deungan, in the parish of Stair, though a little dearer, is undoubtedly the best. According to tradition there was a battle fought, before the Christian æra, in the valley of Dalrymple, in which two Kings, Fergus and Coilus, fell. It is added that Lochfergus takes its name from the former, and the river Kyle from the latter. Thither Coilus, it is said, was pursued and slain. The small village of Coylton, 6 miles east of Air, likewise is said to derive its name from him. It has been supposed that Dalrymple, *Dale-roi-mel*, signifies the valley of the slaughter of kings. There is a cairn of stones in the midst of this valley. In June, 1734, a ball of fire passed through two opposite windows of the newest steeple, broke one end of the bell bomb-joist, and then descended to the street, but did no more harm. A boy in the neighbourhood was killed by another ball of fire. Perhaps the only inundation that deserves notice happened in 1739, attended with a great storm. This raised the river much, and forced ships of considerable burden quite out of the channel.

[NOTE.—As already mentioned, the brief account of Ayr in the first volume of the Statistical Account does not seem to have been afterwards regarded as quite satisfactory by the Rev. Dr M'Gill, and in the 21st volume, published in 1799, there appears the following communication from the pen of Dr M'Gill, "received just after the first had been printed off." The contribution as appended is all but complete, nothing having been excised save the rev. Doctor's references to the Charter of the Burgh, to the Extent and Form of the Parish, and Situation and Productions of the Parish, which, considering what has gone before, are not essential.]

Some Particulars contained in a Second Account of the Parish of Ayr, received from Dr M'Gill in 1791, just after the first had been printed off.

Privileges, and Administration of the Burgh.—The town of Ayr is the seat of the presbytery of that name; and enjoys, with the town of Irvine, every sixth vice of the meeting of the synod of Glasgow and Ayr, which convenes twice at Glasgow for once that it does at either of the other two towns. Ayr is likewise the head burgh of the county; and has a fifth vote with Campbelton, Inverary, Rothsay and Irvine, for a member of Parliament. In shape, it is something of the form of a crescent, but one of the horns much longer than the other.

The administration of this burgh is vested in a provost, two baillies, a dean of guild, and treasurer, with twelve counsellors, two of whom are from the incorporated trades. Their election is conducted as follows. Upon the Wednesday, before the Friday preceding Michaelmas day, the magistrates and council (seventeen in number) meet in the court hall, and elect, first, one of their number, who is denominated old counsellor, then six new counsellors for the ensuing year, four of whom are merchants, and two trades; these, with the magistrates and other members of council, meet in the same place the Friday following, and make the leets for provost, bailies, dean of guild, and treasurer; and upon the first Monday after Michaelmas day, these twenty-three members, with three deacons, (termed extraordinary deacons), from three different incorporations, meet as above, and elect the provost, bailies, dean of guild, and treasurer, and as many members from the old council as, with the office-bearers and new counsellors, make seventeen, which form the magistrates and council for the ensuing year. The magistrates may be re-elected many years without intermission, the provost excepted, who must be changed at least every two years; and the magistrates, &c., remain a year in the council after going out of office.

After the election of the magistrates and council, each of the nine incorporated trades, viz., the smiths, taylors, weavers, dyers, squaremen, shoemakers, skinners, coopers, and fleshers, elect a deacon, who, with the late deacon of each incorporation, meet on the Saturday following, and elect a conveener, who must be one of that number. These form what is denominated the conveener's board, of which he is president; but he is neither a magistrate nor member of council from office, but he, or any deacon, may be elected a counsellor, except the deacons of the fleshers and coopers, who can neither be chosen counsellors nor vote for the magistrates.

The revenues of this burgh vary according to circumstances; they amount, at an average, to £600 sterling per annum.

The tolbooth, with a spire 138 feet in height, stands in the middle of the street called the Sandgate, and very much incommodes those who pass that way, or live in its neighbourhood. The hall adjoining thereto, where the justiciary and sheriff courts are held, is tolerably large and commodious. The town hall, or assembly

room, situated near the Cross, though not large, is very neat and convenient for an ordinary company. The meal market stands near the middle of the town, but is a great deformity to that part of the street. The flesh market is very well situated on the edge of the river, and is at all times well provided with as good meat as is anywhere to be met with.

Agriculture—has made great progress here, as well as in other parts of the country, within the last thirty or forty years. The lands of Alloway, being the full half of the present country parish of Ayr, were formerly possessed by tenants at the yearly rent of 1s 3d per acre, which they were not able to pay, and often became bankrupts and beggars. In the year 1755, these lands were sold by the town to private proprietors, who continue to pay the antient rent as a perpetual feu-duty, and the sale produced a capital of £7200. Since that period, the lands have been brought into good cultivation, and are now finely inclosed, and adorned with plantations and country seats; Rossell, Doonholm, Greenfield, Mount-Charles, Bellisle, &c.

The lands of Borrowfield, the other division of the country parish of Ayr, seem to have been alienated from the town at some far distant period, when money was extremely scarce; for though they still pay a feu duty, it is a mere trifle, compared with what is paid for the Alloway lands.

There is scarce any part of the parish which is not arable, and most of it actually bears crops, chiefly of oats; yet it is by no means able to supply itself, including the town, with provisions. Large supplies, both of vegetable and animal food, are brought in from all the neighbouring country, from Galloway, and often from Ireland. Clover and rye grass are frequently sown with great profit.

The town has still in its possession a small stripe of pasture ground along the sands, for about a quarter of a mile to the S.; as also, at some distance to the S.E., a common, of between 80 and 90 acres, for feeding milk cows, and free to every burgess. The greatest part of the common to the S., a large circular field, has been of late inclosed with a good stone wall, which has immediately within it a fine race course. The field has likewise been cleared of whins or furze.

The whole land rent of the parish amounts at present to about £3700 sterling; and the extent is said to be something more than 5000 acres.

Though the climate is healthy, many examples of that extraordinary longevity, which are reported from other places, cannot be produced. Several persons among us are above 80 years, and we have four at present on the borders of 90. It is said that, in the year 1745, one of the inhabitants, at the age of 114, walked from Ayr to Leith, and there took shipping for London, where he died, after a stay of only two months. The town stands on a dry sandy soil, and has fields adjoining, than which none can be fitter for walking, or for the diversions of racing, golfing, &c. Every one has easy access to the turf, covered at all seasons with a beautiful verdure, and in spring and summer adorned with wild daisies and other flowers.

The sea-shore is flat and shallow, and the navigation of the river, where the tide never flows above 12 feet, is subject to the inconvenience of a bar, which at times, especially by the violence of the N.-W. winds, is thrown up almost quite across the mouth of it. This, however, is in part cleared away when the river happens to be greatly swelled by rains; sometimes it is necessary to dredge it; and the inconvenience is likely to be further remedied by a good stone wall, built on both sides of the river, which is now carrying on, and more than half finished. Formerly the south side of the river, beyond the quay, was fenced by large triangular wooden boxes, filled with stones. But these were found to be very expensive, by the frequent repairs which they wanted; and therefore, an attempt has of late been made, and is already far on in the execution, to procure the same convenience by building, instead of wooden boxes, a wall of the same height, but entirely of stone, perpendicular on the side next the river, and sloping off on the other side. This, it is hoped, will answer the same end and be more durable. In the course of last year, there were built at some distance from one another, but uniting in a line when viewed from the bar, two reflecting lighthouses to direct ships into the entrance of the river. From the mouth of the river southward, nearly in a direct line, and about a quarter of a mile distant from one another, there lie four different heaps of large stones, of which three are always to be seen at about half tide, but the fourth or northmost one, only at some very low ebbs. These stones, being many of them of great weight, and all of them loose and unconnected, are lifted by grappling irons fixed to a crane, and conveyed on pontoons, and are found to be useful materials for fencing the river, on both sides, by the walls formerly mentioned.

Fisheries.—Formerly there were great herring fishings at this place, much to its emolument;

but nothing of that kind has appeared for these 28 years last past. The coast affords plenty of salmon, at least for home consumption every year, and a great variety of excellent white fish, cod, ling, haddocks, whitings, skate, flounders, &c. No shell fish, except a few crabs and lobsters. Cod are in season from the end of June to the end of February; ling and haddocks are the same. Skate good at all seasons, when they can be got. The white fishing is mostly carried on by a society of people from Aberdeenshire, who pursue their business with great diligence and success; but they begin to complain of a scarcity of fish on this coast, such as has sometime ago taken place on the east coast of Scotland. They used to sell their fish for a penny per pound, 'till a man came from Edinburgh of late, and offered them 1½d for all that they could spare. They likewise send large supplies to Kilmarnock, Irvine, Paisley, and Glasgow. They catch their fish by long lines with hooks and baits fixed on them, at proper distances, and sunk to the bottom with weights at either end. The salmon fishing is managed by people of this country; and there are seven cobles or fishing boats usually employed, with four men for each boat, three for the river of Ayr, and four for the Doon, but more or fewer as occasion requires. They are permitted to use six for each of the rivers, if needful. The salmon fishing at the mouth of Doon, which belongs to the Earl of Cassillis, pays a rent of £90 per annum, and there is a cruive about six miles up the river, which pays £13 more. The fishing of Ayr river formerly belonged to Sir Thomas Wallace of Craigie, but is now the property of the society of writers in Ayr, and is rented at £85, together with the payment of some public burdens, as £1 to the town for each coble employed in the fishing, and £2 in all to the minister of Monkton. A few years ago the price of salmon in summer and autumn came as low as 1½d per pound; but now it is never under 2½d; sometimes much more, especially the first in the season.

Tides, Landmarks, &c.—Sea weed of the common kind is thrown in by the winter storms, in great quantities, and much used for manuring lands. The tides are very equal, and no remarkable currents nigh the coast, nor rocks, except those already mentioned. As for landmarks, the rock of Ailsa, rising like a lofty broad shouldered cone, ten miles from the nearest coast, serves admirably for the entrance to the Frith of Clyde; and to the south of it, in case of a storm, there is a safe retreat in Lochryan; on the north, in Lamlash, an excellent harbour in Arran The Brown Carrick Hill, 3 miles to the south of us, presents a noble ridge, of nearly the same length from east to west; towards the last it bears its highest point, and from thence slopes gently down to the sea. But on its north side it sends out, beyond a deep narrow valley, a bold promontory or two, contiguous to one another, called the Bowerhill, or, Heads of Ayr; and another not so high, about half a mile farther east, called Greenan, with the remains of an old castle, on the very brink of the precipice. About 8 miles north from these promontories is the small flat rocky island called Lady Isle, inhabited only by a few rabbits, but supposed to afford good anchoring ground on its east side, and therefore has of late years had two pillars erected on it for directing ships to find their proper station there. Nothing, however, but extreme necessity can induce any ship to attempt anchoring there, be the ground ever so good, because there is no shelter above.

All these landmarks, with the steeple of the town, the tower of St. John's in the citadel, and a large sugar house near the shore, furnish good direction towards the harbour of Ayr.

Stones, Minerals, &c.—Of freestone we have two quarries, now working, hard by the town, but they lie deep, and require a good deal of labour to bare them. Two or three great coal works, also, are carried on in our neighbourhood, but all by the same company: one in the parish of St. Quivox, on the Blackhouse estate, now belonging to a company in Edinburgh; another to the community of Newton-upon-Ayr; and the third to a private family. There is little doubt but that coal might be found in our parish. The exportation of coal to Ireland is the principal branch of trade carried on at this port.

Schools.—One might form a high idea of the population of the parish from the number of schools that are in it. Two English masters appointed with salaries of £15 each have each of them from 38 to 40 scholars throughout the year, at the rate of 3s per quarter for every scholar. Besides these, there are three other English schools, without salaries, and with the same wages, and almost as numerous as the former.

For the Latin there is a master, with a salary of £20 per annum, and 5s a quarter for each scholar; and the number of his scholars is generally about 40. His highest class he commonly instructs in the rudiments of the Greek language. The same salary is allotted to a

master who teaches arithmetic, book-keeping, navigation, geometry, &c. Finally, there are two writing masters, of whom one has a salary of ten pounds per annum. French is taught privately by several hands.

Religious Instruction.—Of religious instructors, there are, besides two ministers on the establishment, who do duty in one place of worship, one episcopal, two Moravians, (a sect which first appeared here not much more than 20 years ago), and very lately one Methodist. None of their meetings are, as yet, considerable. Of professed Seceders, (Antiburghers), who attend a place of worship at the head of Wallace Street, in the parish of St Quivox, there may be 50 or 60 souls ; of Episcopalians, somewhat fewer ; Roman Catholics, none.

Physic.—For our bodily health, we have one physician and three surgeons, who all, except the first, act as apothecaries.

Law.—Ayr, being the head burgh of the county, has much law in it ; and the number of attornies, who attend the sheriff and town courts, has greatly increased of late years, as well as the causes. The former are about 16. Of the latter there are generally pending upwards of 200. The writer of this article heard the sheriff-substitute affirm, that during the last summer session he had advised no less than 300 causes.

Houses.—In the town alone it is computed that full 60 new houses have been built within these ten years, and many also in the country part of the parish. The latter have all been built on new ground, and several of the former. But some old houses of the town have been pulled down, to make way for new ones. It is rare that any of them have been left untenanted, but two or three are in that situation this year. The ordinary rent of houses is from £20 or £25 to £1 per annum. The number of licensed alehouses in the parish, including inns and taverns, is at present 48 ; and it cannot be supposed that so many of them have a salutary effect on the morals of the people. Some think it is hurtful that good ale is, by public assessments, rendered so dear, and bad whisky so cheap.

Church.—The present church of Ayr was built in 1654, and might contain, if well filled, near 2000 sitters. The old church, named St. John Baptist's, of which only the tower or steeple now remains, stood on the other side of the town, next the sea, in what is called the Citadel. But Oliver Cromwell, judging it proper to build a fortress at this place for keeping the west country in awe, took possession of St. John's Church for an armoury, and, by way of compensation, gave the town 1000 merks English for building another. The walls of the Citadel inclose about 10 or 12 acres of ground, and were originally surrounded with a wet ditch, which had a drawbridge over it on the side next the town. It was a very regular fortress, with four bastions, three wells, a magazine, a sallyport, &c., but built at so great expence that the Protector, when he had the account laid before him, asked if it was built of silver. For it seems no stone quarries near Ayr were then known, and the stones employed in building the Citadel were all brought from some distance by sea, and partly, it is said, from the castle of Ardrossan, belonging to the Earl of Eglinton. After the Reformation, therefore, the Earl asked and obtained a grant of the Citadel of Ayr from the Crown, to indemnify him, in part, for the losses he alledged he had sustained during the Usurpation. At present it belongs to the Earl of Cassillis, has a large kiln and brewery in it, and pays £50 sterling of rent per annum.

Within the wall of this fortress, as tradition bears, and at the highest mount of it, stood the castle of Ayr, which is mentioned in old histories. And in the church of St. John's, it is recorded that the Parliament of Scotland met to confirm Robert Bruce's title to the throne, when many of the nobility could hardly sign their initials.

Stipends.—The stipends of the two colleague ministers of Ayr were, when first modified anno 1638, of equal value, or nearly so ; the first being payable, in bear and oat-meal, out of the teinds ; and the other all in money, from the rent of certain mills, granted to the town for that particular purpose, by Queen Mary, 1567. But the progress of agriculture and commerce, and the consequent decrease of the value of money, have long ago made a great difference between them ; so that the first, at an average, may now be reckoned worth £130 sterling per annum, besides a glebe ; while the other does not exceed £75 sterling per annum. Whatever the second minister enjoys above this, is purely a voluntary gratuity from the town; and the gratuities allowed at different times since the year 1761 amount now to £37 sterling per annum. The patronage of the first charge belongs to the crown ; of the second, to the town council, and kirk session, jointly. Neither of the ministers have manses; but the town, about seven or eight years ago, granted to each

of the present incumbents £12 12s sterling per annum on that score.

Provision for the Poor.—For the support of the poor we have an hospital, which was built by subscription about the year 1756, which is sufficient to accommodate 60 persons, old and young. But many of the poor chuse rather to receive a small weekly aliment, and to live in houses of their own. The funds out of which they are supplied, are the weekly collections, which may amount to £120 sterling per annum; a contribution of about £50 sterling, from different corporations in the town, and a yearly stent or poors rate of £100. Besides all this, there is an annual distribution, amounting to £20 sterling or upwards, made to reduced house-keepers, by the magistrates and ministers, about the middle of winter, from a fund disponed for that purpose, by Alderman Smith in Londonderry, who was a native of Ayr.

Our poor are, upon the whole, well provided for, a circumstance perfectly understood by the poor of neighbouring parishes, who therefore flock in upon us from every side, but do not complain of want, till they have made out a three years residence in the place, after which they are reckoned its own proper poor. We are likewise oppressed with unfortunate women, who bring forth numbers of illegitimate children, whom they cannot find fathers to own, (these being generally sailors or soldiers, previously gone away to distant places), and who must therefore be either maintained by the public, or suffered to starve. We stand much in need of a Bridewell, for restraining these and other disorders, and the timely correction of smaller crimes would, in many cases, prevent greater ones.

In Ayr gaol, during the year 1790, there were 70 debtors, 73 criminals, and 40 vagrants.

Fuel.—The common fuel of this place and neighbourhood is coal; and the price some years ago was 1s 6d per cart, which is at the rate of 6s per ton; afterwards it rose to 1s 8d a cart; and this last winter it came to 2s at the rate of 8s a ton, where it now remains. The demand of late for exportation is so great, that oft times scarce any are left for home use.

Commerce and Manufactures. The most considerable branch of trade, from the port of Ayr, is, as before mentioned, the exportation of coals to Ireland. The quantity exported to that kingdom in the year 1790 was 8418 chalders, or 12827 tons. This trade is chiefly carried on by vessels belonging to Ireland, which import a considerable quantity of limestone, of an excellent quality. The lime when burned and slacked, is sold at 7d per boll. The articles imported from Ireland, are chiefly grain, linen cloth, and hides. Of imports from other countries, wood and iron from Prussia and the Baltic are the principal articles.

The vessels belonging to the port are 33 in number, as follows:—

Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
18 employed in the year 1790 in foreign trade	1894½	134
8 employed in the year 1790 in the coast trade	332½	29
7 employed in the year 1790 in the fishery	266½	27
33	2494	190

Manufactories are not carried on to any great extent in this parish. The principal are those of leather and of soft and hard soap. Of the former, the average number of hides tanned yearly for these last four years is 3000, and from 5 to 600 dozen of calf skins. There are three soap manufactories, but the quantity made cannot be well ascertained. Of retail shops in the town of Ayr, besides a few of inconsiderable note, there may at present be reckoned thirty-six. Twenty-one of which are furnished with articles of grocery, four with hard ware, two with saddlery, and nine with broad cloth and haberdashery. A large sugar house, built within these last 20 years, did not continue long employed, and lies waste and useless, as it has done for several years past. Our weavers of all kinds have most of their employment from Glasgow and Paisley. But of late there are many female children happily engaged in the tambouring business, which they have from the cotton manufactories.

Banking Companies.—The first banking company established here was that of John M'Adam and Company, which consisted of 12 members, who carried on that business from 1760 to 1770, with advantage to themselves and benefit to the country. The next was the famous and well-known bank of Douglas, Heron and Company, which commenced in 1769, and continued till about the end of 1772. Upon the dissolution of that concern, another company was formed, under the firm of Hunters' and Company, which, with a branch of the Bank of Scotland, now carries on all that business in this place.

Fairs, &c.—There are two market days in the town every week, Tuesday and Friday; this last is the principal one. And we have four fairs in the year, one every quarter. At the beginning of each fair, coarse raw woollen cloths, manufactured in this and the neighbouring parishes, are sold to merchants from Glasgow,

Paisley, &c., to the amount of £4000 yearly at the four fairs. At three of them, when the cloth market is over, is a large horse market, chiefly of Irish horses.

In a sea-port town, many as usual addict themselves to a sea-faring life, also some inlist in the army, and many young men go abroad to push their fortunes. But no emigrations took place, even when they were most in fashion.

The people in general are humane and charitable, live comfortably, and are contented with their circumstances. Their morals in many instances have suffered by the practice of smuggling, which is not yet entirely suppressed in this place; and it is not to be doubted but their condition might be ameliorated chiefly by an increase of true piety, and virtue, and honest industry among them.

Learned Men.—History has recorded but few men, natives of this place, who were distinguished in the republic of letters. Only in the 9th century it produced the famous John Scot, sirnamed *Erigena*, or born in Ayr, to distinguish him from a former born at Melrose, and from another born in the 13th century in the town of Dunse. Erigena is said to have excelled all the men of his time, in the knowledge of languages and philosophy, as also in acuteness of judgment, readiness of wit, and fluency of elocution. He studied at Athens, lived in great favour with Charles the Bald of France, and wrote many books upon different points of philosophy and theology, of which some remain at this day. To him may be added Andrew Ramsay, better known by the name of *Chevalier Ramsay*, the author of Cyrus's Travels, and other works. And lastly, Robert Burns, the poet, born in the country part of the parish of Ayr, and by his genius, at least, as much distinguished as either of the former authors.

[NOTE.—At the end of the second volume of the Statistical Account is a "State of the Population of the Parish of Ayr, distinguishing the number of inhabitants in the town and country, their age and sex, the natives of the parish, and those born elsewhere—from a survey taken in the year 1791, by Mr L. M'Kechnie, Session Clerk of Ayr." The totals are—Inhabiting the town, 1673 males; 2198 females—total, 3871; born in the parish, 1838; born elsewhere, 2033. Inhabiting the country—Males, 374; females, 402—total, 776; born in the parish, 299; born elsewhere, 477.

There is also the following list of the 9 incorporated trades of Ayr, distinguishing the number of masters, journeymen, and apprentices employed in each — from an account taken by the convener, in November 1791] :—

	Masters	Journeymen	Apprentices	Total.
Hammermen	24	16	24	64
Weavers ..	61	89	36	186
Dyers ..	6	4	2	12
Tailors ..	32	10	5	57
Squaremen	34	68	33	135
Shoemakers	25	27	10	62
Skinners ..	2	1	1	4
Coopers ..	12	5	5	22
Fleshers ..	14	16	4	34
	210	246	120	576

It appears (adds the Note) that the Dyers and Skinners were, about a century ago, among the most numerous corporations, and that the Coopers were then more numerous, owing to a considerable wine trade carried on with France. Besides the above incorporated trades, there are, in the country part of the parish, 5 blacksmiths, 3 cartwrights, and 2 taylors.

[NOTE.—It is not necessary to enter at anything like a corresponding length upon the contribution of the Rev. Alexander Cuthill to "The New Statistical Account of Scotland." Mr Cuthill wrote in the summer of 1837. To a large extent he, necessarily, travels over the ground of his predecessor. His account of Ayr is, further, that of a comparatively recent writer. And the New Statistical Account differs from the Old in this, that; while in the Old, one requires to search the whole series of volumes for the various Ayrshire parishes, in the New the contributions of the parish ministers of the county are collected in one volume, and, therefore, of easy access. The extracts that follow, therefore, are to be regarded as supplementary to what has already been given, and as, in another way, bearing upon the contemporary life of the burgh at the time that Mr Cuthill penned his account.

The lands of Alloway which, a century earlier, had been possessed by tenants "at the yearly rent of 1s 3d, which they were unable to pay, and often became bankrupts and beggars," were, in 1837, largely "the most fertile, the best cultivated, and the most finely wooded districts in the county, the land yielding a rent of upwards of £4 an acre, and producing in crops a fair remunerating return to the farmer." The temperature Mr Cuthill describes as "pretty uniform," the thermometer in winter being "seldom below the freezing point." "There are no epidemic diseases peculiar to the locality,"

consumptive disease being "attended with symptoms that show it to be more owing to hereditary taint than to external causes."]

Hydrography, Springs.—Ayr abounds in springs everywhere, and they can easily be reached, not far below the surface of the earth. The spring water, however, is generally hard, and particularly in the town. It is very unfit for detergent and certain culinary purposes. It holds in solution carbonates of lime and magnesia, sulphates of lime and magnesia, and chlorides of lime, magnesia, and soda, but the salt most predominant is carbonate of lime. Traces of iron in combination, or as an oxide, are generally to be found, although in some wells they cannot be detected. It is obvious that, however hard the water may be from these saline matters which it holds in solution, it is not deleterious or hurtful, as, from their laxative nature, when iron is in solution, it is rather tonic and corroborative to the system than injurious to it.

Change in the Course of the Doon.—The extent of coast within the parish must have been more confined at one time than it is at present, as the Doon seems to have joined the sea much nearer the town than it does by its present course. There seems to be little reason to doubt that formerly the river had a different bed at the lower extremity of the parish from what it now retains, and the alteration appears to have taken place immediately below the lower bridge. There are obvious indications that at or under this point, it ran along nearly the line of the present road by the south of *Cockcraft Nursery*, and the eastern boundary of the farm of *Cunning Park*, that it diverged to the west of Seafield House and the fields of Blackburn, and that it joined the sea at, or not far from, the present mouth of the Water of Ayr. It is not easy to determine when or how the change into its present channel took place; whether it was by the unaided workings of nature, or by artificial means, for the sake of the ground that would be recovered by a less circuitous course. The latter consideration was likely to present a motive sufficiently adequate for the undertaking, since, by means of the change, a valuable extent of ground has been gained from the sea, which, *quoad civilia*, still is attached to Maybole parish, affording an indubitable evidence that it once belonged to it, without the river intervening, as at present, to separate them. The receding of the sea may also, no doubt, have aided in effecting the change. There are indications which can easily be traced of the former bed of the river, all the way from the new bridge near Belle-isle gate-house to the head of the Low Green, a line of low marshy ground running along the whole way, except where it has lately been filled up and cultivated on the Blackburn property. The only difficulty that occurs is to account for the raised up bank at and below the Low Bridge of Doon, which is several feet above the level of the stream. If the course was changed, however, by artificial means, the same means would be used to keep it from getting into its former channel, by the fence of an elevated forced embankment, which the rising ground here above the river evidently is, from the declivity that takes place on the Ayr road immediately after passing the bridge. But we can produce something more than mere conjecture on the subject. A few years ago a very handsome bell of considerable dimensions, with the words *Gloria Soli Doe* (for *Deo*) marked upon it in large letters, was found in the marshy grounds behind Blackburn House, which we have supposed to have been the bed of the river, together with some spars of a vessel that seems to have been stranded or sunk near its mouth. From this it would appear to have been navigable like the Ayr for some short distance above its confluence with the sea. *Blackburn* itself is synonymous with the *Doon river*.

[NOTE.—Mr Cuthill deals at some length with the Geology, Mineralogy, Zoology, and Botany of the parish. It may be described, in general, he says, "as presenting a superficial district of no definite geological character, the external surface being covered with a diluvium or broken mass of sand, gravel, and clay, intermixed with water-worn detached whinstones." Its mineralogy is not, in his opinion, of much importance. The zoology boasts no rare animals, but includes foxes, otters, seal, hares, rabbits, pheasants, partridges, quails (very rare, though once common), woodcocks, snipes, landrail, water-rail, green and golden plover, sandpipers, bittern (rare), heron, kingfisher, waterouzel, hawks, owls (including the goat-sucker and fern-owl), fieldfare, snowflake, starling ("a rare bird, but not altogether unknown here"); the common birds of the country; in severe weather, wild swan, geese, ducks, barnacle, widgeon, and teal of several varieties; and sea fowl of every kind that are to be found on the coast. As a salmon river, the Doon is early, the Ayr "unusually late." On the Ayr "the decrease of the salmon may, in a great degree, be attributed

to the erection of a high dam-dike, near its mouth, over which the fish has great difficulty in ascending." "In the Doon, however, and along the coast in the vicinity of its mouth, numbers continue to be taken —more than enough to supply Ayr market; and the surplus finds a ready sale in large towns at a distance." "The lamprey is occasionally found in both rivers, but never used as an article of food; and that mysterious little fish, the par, is likewise common to both."]

Improvements.—Few places have undergone a greater change for the better than this town has done within the last twenty years. During that time it has made greater advances in architectural and other improvements than it has done perhaps during a century before. As a proof of this we shall extract the following account of the state in which the town was found by the writer of it at the time the work was published in which it is contained; and from personal recollections we do not think it exaggerated. "The streets are ill-lighted, wretchedly paved, and very indifferently cleaned. Side pavements of flagstones for foot-passengers might be mentioned among the desiderata that might easily be supplied. The prison, like the old tolbooth of Edinburgh, interlines, almost blocks up, one of the principal streets. Security is the only consideration which seems to have gained the attention of those who planned this public nuisance, which is not so much the terror of evil-doers, as the horror of those who do well." Now we have only to contrast with this short but very graphic description, the condition in which the town now appears to strangers, in order to be impressed with the great improvement that has since been effected. The nuisance complained of—the old gaol—has been entirely removed; by which means a fine spacious street has been laid open from Wellington Square to the New Bridge, improving progressively, by new edifices on both sides, of which the new spire with the spacious and elegant buildings attached to it, and the Ayrshire Bank may be mentioned as specimens. The principal streets are well lighted with gas, causewayed, and kept tolerably clean, and side pavements are generally formed from one end of the town to the other. The square already named, on the *west end*, whether we consider the neatness of the houses, or the fineness of the situation, with its beautiful sea view, can hardly be surpassed in any other provincial town in Scotland.

[NOTE.—Mr Cuthill details the erection, about 20 years previously, of the County Buildings at a cost of £30,000. The architect was Mr Wallace, the model an ancient temple dedicated to Isis at Rome; and the New Town's Buildings, which "reflect great honour on Mr Hamilton of Edinburgh, the architect," and the spire, of which, 226 feet high, "has a bell weighing 22 cwt., of a rich deep-toned sound." The spire was struck by lightning in 1835, "more than midway from the ground," and "the bolt wrenched in an instant two of the large massy stones from their places, driving one of them to a considerable distance, without, however, doing any material injury." The Wallace Tower, "for what reason (so called) does not appear," was the work of the same architect. Mr Cuthill does not think that Thom, the artist of the statue, has been "very happy in his conception of the hero, either in point of costume or expression of character." Dealing with the Old Church, he notes that no record of Cromwell's gift towards its erection appears in the town's records. "The seats are getting old and rotten, and the passages require to be relaid with flagstones." The New Church, erected in 1810, cost, first and last, £6000. Burns' Monument was erected at a cost of £2000.

Mr Cuthill, under "Eminent Men," deals with Joannes Scotus, surnamed Erigena, Robert Burns, John Loudoun M'Adam, of road-making fame; John Mair, the author of several school books; Professor Jackson, of St Andrews University, and once rector of Ayr Academy; and John Fergusson, of Doonholm, an enterprising East Indian merchant, gratefully remembered because of his benefactions to the parish. He then takes up the antiquities, St John's Church, former encroachment of the sea, Monastery of Dominicans, Monastery of Franciscans, Alloway Kirk, the Moat of Alloway, and the Roman Road.]

Battle Fields.—On considering this magnificent relic of Roman greatness, and other Roman antiquities that have been found in this parish, it appears evident that Ayr must have been a station of considerable importance, whilst the Romans held possession of the country. There are manifest indications that the whole of the lower part along the sea coast, from river to river, had been the scene of some great struggle in which the Romans and the natives of the island were combatants, and that probably in more than one conflict. Throughout the whole of this space Roman and British places of sepulture are found, with Roman armour, swords,

lances, daggers, and pieces of mail, and brazen camp-vessels, intermixed with British urns of rude baked clay, hatchet and arrow heads, and other implements of warfare used by the Caledonians. One of the largest and most beautiful of these urns was found some years ago, near the banks of the Doon, among a collection of bones,

"Beneath the cairn,
Where hunters found the murdered bairn."

We have seen a very antique Tuscan-shaped pitcher, in the possession of a gentleman in Ayr, that was found many years ago on the top of the rock in the Townhead quarry, thirty or forty feet under the present surface of the ground, along with a kettle that has since been lost. What is somewhat remarkable, the pitcher, when found, was filled with sea-shells, and has the appearance of having been glazed, which has been thought by some to militate against its claims to a Roman origin. We believe, however, it has been pretty clearly ascertained that the Romans were well acquainted with the art of glazing. The above quarry lies along the line in which the old Roman road must have passed, and a relic of this kind so far underground, unless it had been placed there by some contingency beyond the usual course of things, carries along with it some plausible reasons for believing it of ancient manufacture. At or near this place also, was the site of the famous Barns of Ayr.

But we have not been left entirely to uncertain conjecture or vague tradition with respect to some great conflicts having taken place in this parish in ancient times, both betwixt the Romans and the natives of the country, and with the latter amongst themselves. Having been led to make some investigation into the subject, we have found some light thrown upon it by the following authorities. Spottiswoode, in his history, relates that "in the year 360, Maximus, a Roman Prefect, excited the Picts to enter into alliance with him against the Scots, and that the Romans and Picts encountered the Scots *at the Water of Doon in Carrick*. The Scots were routed, and their King Eugenius and most of his nobility were slain." That a great battle was also fought in this locality betwixt the Britons and the Scots and Picts united, is asserted by Hollingshed, Boethius, and Buchanan. The first of these represents the Silures as inhabiting the region now known by the name of Ayrshire, and states that "Coilus, King of the Britons, having assembled an army, entered the Scottish borders lying toward the Irish Sea, wasting with fire and sword whatever he found in his way till he came *to the river Dune*, where he encamped on the banks." Boethius says, evidently in reference to the same invasion, that while Coilus was King of the Britons, the Scots and Picts attacked him "ad ripam amnis Dunæ,' the Scots in front, while the Picts came upon him from behind during night. Buchanan, in his History of Scotland, gives a more detailed account of the battle than either of these. . . . There is a tradition still existing in this district that after some great battle two Kings, Coilus and Fergus, gave their names, the former to Coil and Coylton, the latter to *Loch Fergus* and *Mount Fergus* in this parish. Local tradition assigns the site of the battle to the parish of Dalrymple, which is not in any degree probable. The armies on both sides must have been numerous, since, according to Buchanan, Coilus could easily spare five thousand men to be placed in ambuscade, and the narrow vale of the Doon, in the above parish, could afford no eligible ground for such a conflict. On the other hand, the lower part of this parish, flanked by its two rivers, with the sea in front and the undulating ground behind, even at the present day, could yield to no other locality in point of advantageous battle ground. Besides, the expression, *on the banks of the Doon, towards the Irish Sea*, is sufficient to settle the point, as *the Irish Sea* could only mean the *Bay of Ayr*, not then known by that name, and being a continuation of the Irish Sea.

Cromwell's Fort.—The citadel was itself both capacious and strongly fortified. . . . The area within the walls, which on three sides are yet entire, is about twelve acres in extent. The ground plan is a hexagon, with bastions at the angles, but the figure is not regular, the two sides facing the sea and the town being much longer than any of the others. The situation is between the town and the mouth of the river, and the strongest works front the latter. The main bastion, occupying the north-eastern angle, close upon the harbour, and next the town, commands the entire circuit of the fortifications, the river, and the town itself. It has still an elevation above the water of forty-five feet, and is supposed to occupy the site of the ancient palace and castle of Ayr, built by William the Lion. The sides of this bastion, like those of the other four, which are yet to be traced, vary from 120 to 135 feet in length, and their angles are regular, according to the system of fortification now in use.

Proceeding parallel to the river, along the rampart, but on a plane about fifteen feet lower, we arrive at a second bastion, connected with

the former by a curtain 237 feet in length. The works now trend toward the west, and a second curtain 266 feet long, conducts to a third bastion. These appear to have formed the main part of the fortifications, and have been erected with great care and at very considerable expense. The rampart is everywhere faced on the outside with a wall, strongly and exceedingly well built, of hewn stone, inclined at the proper angles, and entire. The whole is sustained on arches which have formed convenient securities for garrison stores and provisions. The breadth of the rampart is in this place 120 feet. The works now sweep almost directly west, running parallel to the sea-line, and, when first executed, had occupied the whole of the dry ground on this side. Though the sea has now retired to a considerable distance, leaving a fine sandy beach, yet some of the oldest inhabitants remember when the walls were washed by the tide at high water. The seaward curtain is 512 feet long, and though the rampart continues of the same height, viz., about 20 or 25 feet above the level of the sands, yet it has been narrow and without arches, having been composed of solid earth, faced with the same solid masonry as already described At the termination of the sea-wall, and joining the western angle of the fortification, is a fourth bastion, which, though smaller than the others, has been constructed with equal care and skill. From its position to what must formerly have been the mouth of the river Doon, which we have already attempted to prove, this point must have been very strong. A curtain 272 feet running nearly south conducts to a fifth bastion, but here the original rampart can no longer be traced, though the garden walls of the adjacent houses are built upon its foundations, and clearly shew its position. The sixth and last bastion has occupied the southern angle of the fort, but of this no part now remains. A long curtain and deep broad ditch had formed the principal defences towards the town, joining the south to the eastern bastion, whence we started in this descriptive circuit of the fortifications. Of this side of the citadel the only remains are the hollow of the ditch and the gate of the front wall. The latter is a round-headed arch, with some heavy but not inelegant mouldings, surmounted by a square recess, in which once stood the arms of the Commonwealth of England. The interior of the fortress has been a large open space of an oblong square shape, occupied with barracks for the military, and other buildings, and the Church of St. John, and its tower, which had been converted into an armoury and guard room, thus literally becoming a church militant.

Population.—At the time of the Rebellion in 1745, the population is said to have been only about 2000; in 1791 it was 4100; and the last census, in 1831, fixes it at 7606. Since the Government census a further state of the population was taken in 1836, in order to make returns to the Royal Commission appointed to enquire into the want of religious instruction in Scotland, when the amount was found to be 7475, making a decrease of 131. But this might easily be accounted for from the great mortality that took place in Ayr, in consequence of the disease of cholera, in 1832, which swept away a great many of the inhabitants. The population of the town within the toll bars, in 1836, was 6240, of which 2963 were under twelve years of age; and that of the country part of the parish was 1235. The number of families amounted to 1647, making four and a little more than a half the average number of each family.

[NOTE.—Then, as now, Ayr was the residence of a considerable number of gentlemen of independent fortune. It had 12 landed proprietors with rentals of £50 and upwards. In 1832, the year of the cholera, the deaths were 260, the average of the accompanying five years being 158; the number of marriages was 60 instead of 80 on the average. Having no large manufactories its increase was "not dependent on contingent or temporary causes," and the population was mostly indigenous, "with the exception," says Mr Cuthill, "of some families of Irish labourers of the poorer class, who had been induced to become resident here, as in most other towns in the west of Scotland, from no strong temptation as to remunerative employment, but because any change whatever from their miserable condition in their own country was likely to be a change for the better." The results were, the keeping down of the price of labour by competition, and the demoralisation of the character of the Scottish inhabitants, who mixed with them. The lowest class, from this immigration, "had been greatly deteriorated of late years, both in their civil and moral condition."]

There are few places where the poor are better attended to and provided for than in Ayr, and they know this full well. Practical benevolence to the needy and distressed is a leading characteristic of the inhabitants, and one of the fruits of this has been that numerous charitable bequests, mortifications, and institutions exist for mitigating or removing in one shape or other the evils of poverty. These,

however, have in some respects had an opposite effect from that designed, as they have tended to increase the number of applicants and expectants, and to induce the needy to seek to establish a legal residence in the parish solely on their account. The management of the poor's funds also, being under so numerous a body of directors, has probably had the effect of creating in the community a more general interest in favour of the poor than in most other places, and of obtaining for them a higher rate of aliment than they generally receive in any of the parishes around. Many of these directors are fluctuating; they are apt to be guided more by impulses than by general rules; and hence applications for aliment are decided on more by feeling, in some cases, than by expediency. Add to all this, that there is hardly a family in the higher, or middling, classes of society that have not their set of dependents or hangers-on for private bounty, that partake of what they can spare to relieve their wants and render them comfortable, and whom they are always earnest to commend to public charities. Now all this exhibits both an amiable and a Christian spirit; but the consequence of it has been that one out of every *twenty-three* of the population is a pauper, whereas in Glasgow the proportion is one in every *forty*.

[NOTE.—This apart, Mr Cuthill regards the people, as a class, happy, orderly, and respectable; free from sectarian bitterness, and comparatively free from crime, "without the protection of any regular system of police." The working classes indulged in ardent spirits "to a greater extent than is beneficial to their health and morals," but they were no worse than those of the same class in other places. Morality was well conserved. There was a general desire to have the children educated "except among a few of the low Irish." The inhabitants at large were of rather "a gay and social temperament," urbane and polite, and with a natural propensity "to press upwards." What with the Western Race Meeting, two packs of fox-hounds and one of harriers kept in the neighbourhood, angling, shooting, and other amusements, the inhabitants "passed their hours of relaxation very agreeably."

Mr Cuthill notes the foundation of the Ayrshire Agricultural Association in 1835, and the improvements effected in the agricultural system generally. The rent of land varied from £4 odds to 15s an acre—the average being from £1 10s to £1 15s. The usual rate of grazing was £3 for a cow or ox, and 10s for a sheep yearly. "The wages of labourers amount to 8s a week in winter, and from 9s to 10s in summer. In harvest an exception to this must be made, when they are sometimes as high as 2s 6d a day. Hired farm-servants, fit for the ordinary work of a farm, receive about £12 a year, females £6, with bed and board. A cartwright and blacksmith can earn from 12s to 15s weekly." The sheep stock was generally of the Leicester and Cheviot kinds, but also blackfaced; the cattle of the genuine Ayrshire breed. Holmstone and Greenfield were the best farms in the parish. An attempt to form an agricultural museum had been a failure.

In 1759 it was directed, by printed regulations which Mr Cuthill had seen, that salmon was to form the diet of the paupers in the Poor's House twice a week; but, at the time he wrote, the price seldom fell below 1s 6d a pound at the opening of the season, and 6d at the close. There was abundance of white fish. Ayr employed seven boats, and the average weight of fish landed per boat was from 5 stone during the worst of the season, to 12 stone at the best of it.

The manufactures included Mr Templeton's carpet works, which found employment for upwards of a hundred workers, and which were being enlarged, so as to require nearly a hundred more; the weavers had a 12 and 14 hours' day, and earned £2 in three weeks. There were about 200 shoemakers in town, 250 handloom weavers, and about 20 men employed in tanning and currying. About 300 people earned a livelihood in the flowering of muslin, earning from 4d to 2s a day.

The depth of the harbour was 13 or 14 feet at spring tides; there was accommodation for 80 sail; 18 vessels belonged to the port, the tonnage being 2459; the income for 1836 was £901 13s 5d; the expenditure, £1577; the deficiency, £675 19s 7d, occasioned by large repairs on the quay walls, &c.; in 1836 the number of vessels that cleared was 730, tonnage 62,730, "not including steamboats"; ordinary expenditure about £300 a year, including salaries, expense of light-house, and of cleaning and dredging the river. The dues varied from 2d to 8d a ton, rising with the size of the vessel, and anchor dues from 1s 6d to 7s, also according to size of vessel. About 300 vessels a year arrived coastwise. About 1100 vessels sailed coastways, during 1836, with cargoes of coal, corn, wool, and other goods. The quantity of coal shipped amounted to between 50,000 and 60,000 tons.

Following the business of the law there were 21 resident procurators in Ayr; the Court work was done expeditiously; ordinary cases numbered, in 1834, 431; in 1835, 473; and in 1836, 543; and the same years small debt cases were heard to the numbers respectively of 1609, 1498, and 1326. Sheriff and Jury cases numbered, same years, 16, 25, and 20; and summary cases 126, 88, and 100. There were also Commissary, Justice of Peace, and Burgh Criminal Courts.

Mr Cuthill next deals with local banking. In 1763 a bank was founded by John M'Adam; in 1769 it was superseded by the bank of Douglas, Heron & Co., which, after a three years' course of speculation, their capital being mostly founded on landed property, collapsed. Messrs Hunters & Company succeeded, "and has continued ever since." In 1775 a branch of the Bank of Scotland was established, and "a few years ago" the Ayrshire Banking Company commenced business, with every prospect of success. A branch of the Glasgow Union Bank completed the list.]

Sailors' Society. — This association was instituted so far back as the year 1581, for the benefit of decayed mariners and their widows and children after their death. Its records extend to the date of its commencement. . . . The following incident will be deemed interesting. In the year 1647, during the prevalence of a destructive plague or pestilence, a meeting of the members of the Society, specially convened, took place, in which, after mentioning the names of those present, amounting to a goodly congregation, it is thus recorded:—"The above-named persons, after serious invocation of the name of God publicly by the minister, they apart by themselves in the choir of the church (John Osborne beginning with prayer), ilk person of them stood upon his feet, and one after another made particular confession of his sins and wickedness before the Majesty of the Great God and in presence of the people then assembled, and did before each of them their confessions with prayer, entreating His Majesty to pardon their bygone offences, and that He would, for Christ's sake, arrest this present plague of pestilence, *quilk* every man in particular acknowledged his sins to be the cause of." Among a long list of sins thus confessed and minutely recorded, we find some charging themselves with being guilty of a strong inclination, in their travels, after the idolatrous worship of the mass, and declaring that "the first thing that made them *quat it* was the swearing of the Covenant in this land." Others are represented as being guilty of unlawful gain, by alluring and carrying off children to the West Indies, from which it would appear that this was a crime practised by mariners at that time. Among other irregularities are confessed with great contrition swearing, blasphemy, drunkenness, incontinence, &c., particularly when absent from home and in foreign parts.

Another circumstance of considerable interest in the records of this Society is a detail of the expense of building the gallery in the Old Church now known by the name of the Sailors' Loft. There is a circumstantial account of all the items of the costs incurred—timber, iron, stone for the pillars, wages, drink to the workmen, &c.—amounting in all to £717 3s 2d Scots, or £50 15s 3d sterling. This is dated in May, 1655—the year following that in which the Old Church was built—and the measure appears to have been entered into in consequence of an act of the Town Council authorising it and making over to them the right of property in the loft.

[NOTE.—Mr Cuthill believes that the three galleries in the Old Church were fitted up for themselves by the Merchants', Trades', and Sailors' Societies, and, therefore, that Cromwell's contribution must have been spent on the stone and lime of the building. The entry money to the Sailors' Society was £5 except to the eldest sons of members, who were charged a guinea for admission. In 1836, eighty pensioners had divided among them £63 4s 6d. The Society's only revenue at that time was the admission money of entrants, the interest of £1100 in the hands of the town, £45 in Hunter and Company's Bank, and £12 annually, or upwards, of seat rents in the Sailors' Loft.

The Merchants' Company claimed to have been founded in 1655, and was originally "the Merchant Booth Keepers of the Burgh of Ayr," because in those days business was done in booths on the sides of the streets. The Company had a gallery in the Old Church, but do not seem to have had any specific object in view further than giving occasional aid to decayed members and indigent widows of members deceased. In 1819 a scheme was adopted and put in operation. In 1836 the capital had risen to £2000.

The institution of the Trades has already been dealt with in the Old Statistical Record. The Writers' Society, or *The Fraternity of Procurators in Ayr*, as it was called originally, seems to have existed previous to 1710, though its records go no further back than

that year. In that year the Society had 100 merks by way of funds, but in 1772, the capital sum being then £243 18s 11d, annuities were fixed. These seem to have become steadily greater in value, and with their increase the entrance fees of members proportionally rose. From £5 to those apprenticed with the members, and £15 to those apprenticed elsewhere, they rose to £20 and £40, then to £25 and £45, then to £40 and £80. The funds in 1836 amounted to £7434 6s 2½d, and there were eleven widows receiving annuities and one decayed member. The terms of entry were two guineas at the commencement of apprenticeship, or, in lieu therof, five guineas on becoming a member, besides £78 of entry money and one guinea of annual contribution.

The Ayrshire Horticultural Society was started in 1815, the Earl of Eglinton its first president. Its show in 1831 was among the first of the kind in Scotland. It had a library in 1836 of about 100 volumes.

Ayr Medical Association, founded in 1830, cost its members one sovereign each per year, the money being chiefly spent in the purchase of books and journals, mainly of a professional character.]

Internal Communication.—There is no provincial town that enjoys more amply the means and facilities of communication with other places, both by sea and land. There are regular packets and traders from the harbour to Liverpool, Glasgow, Dublin, &c., at all times of the year; and in summer steamboats sail betwixt this and Glasgow every day, communicating with other towns along the coast. A steamboat sails also every Saturday to Stranraer, touching at Ayr, and returns on the Monday following, thereby affording the means of conveyance to and from Ireland. There are arrivals of the mail from London once, and from Glasgow and Edinburgh twice, every day, and departures as often, and a mail coach has lately been started from Glasgow, for Ireland, through Ayr, which affords a great convenience to the whole of this western district. A traveller has it in his power to go from this to Edinburgh by coach at five different times every lawful day, and to arrive at Ayr from the east by nearly as many opportunities. An Edinburgh coach runs daily by Loudonhill, Strathaven, &c., thus opening up a district of country with which there was formerly little communication. There are also coaches twice a week, or oftener, to all the inland towns in the district, of any note, Irvine, Maybole, Girvan, Cumnock, and Dalmellington; and through the last there is a regular stage thrice every week to Dumfries during the summer months.

[NOTE.—In discussing the ecclesiastical state Mr Cuthill finds fault with the magistrates for not erecting the New Church earlier than 1810. Their dereliction caused the people to seek church accommodation elsewhere. They also erected the New Church without the assistance of the proprietors, the consequence being that the latter did not have the right to sittings for the farmers. Both churches combined had accomodation for 2000 to 2500 sitters, there were about 1000 communicants, and the Sacrament was dispensed twice a year.]

Abstract of the Population, &c., &c., of the Royal Burgh of Ayr, within the Toll-bars.—1836:

Population.		*Communicants*	
Under 12	2963	Establishment ..	1695
Establishment ..	4136	Other denominations	919
Other Denominations	2011	Sittings .	2444
Not known to belong to any Denomination	93		
Having a right to sittings..	2444		

Abstract of Population and Religious Denominations, with the number of individuals belonging to each, in the Parish of Ayr—1836:—

Population.			
Establishment ..	4958	Reformed Presbyterians	69
Other Denominations	2424	United Secession Church	284
Not known to belong to any denominations ..	93	Associate Original Seceders	288
		Relief	1144
Total ..	7475	Scottish Episcopalian Communion ..	198
		Roman Catholics ..	288
		Independent Congregational Union .	29
		Methodists	169
		Universalists.. .	7
		Baptists	1

[NOTE.—The parochial schools were formed into an academy in 1798. Mr Ferguson of Doonholm bequeathed in aid of education £1000, and a considerable sum was also raised in town, £50 constituting the donor a director. The average attendance was 500. There were about a dozen other schools in the parish, the attendance between 600 and 700. The rector of the Academy had a salary of £100 a year; and other teachers small salaries, the highest not exceeding £22. The fees varied from five shillings to a guinea a quarter for each branch of study. There were two circulating libraries in the town, and a town library of

3000 volumes. The last had 108 members, their entry money was £3, and the largeness of this sum prevented extension, and limited the benefits the library should have provided. There were two newspapers, both apparently thriving; a handsome well-lighted reading-room, and a mechanics library containing 2500 volumes, a membership of from 150 to 200, and an entry money of six shillings a year.

The Poor's House, built in 1759 to accommodate about 60 inmates, old and young, had in Mr Cuthill's day seldom above twenty-five, and commonly about twenty—mostly people entirely unable to take care of themselves. The poor as a rule preferred living in houses of their own. Their cost to the town in the Poor's House was 2s 6d a week; outside it was less. The poor's directors were 60 in number, and consisted of the ministers and elders of the Establishment, nine from the Town Council, eight from the Incorporated Trades, three each from the sailors, merchants, writers, and all the landed proprietors whose yearly rental amounted to £50 and upward. "The funds for the support of the poor are made up of the collections received at the two churches (after deducting the necessary expenses of the session), the annual rent of the farm of Sessionfield, interest on mortifications, sixty-four bolls of meal—the proceeds of a purchase made long ago by the magistrates, and gifted to the poor's house—and a general assessment on the inhabitants proportioned to their means." The expenditure for the poor in 1836 was £1064 7s 8d, and the income £1100. Out pensioners numbered about 300. The allowances were from 6d to 3s weekly. The Dispensary, founded in 1817, treated gratuitously upwards of 500 patients yearly at an average expenditure of more than £100 a year. Smith's Institution was the fruit of a bequest of Captain Smith of Ayr, for the benefit of the poor, by affording them the means of education for their children. The average attendance was from 150 to 200. There was a *School of Industry* for teaching young girls sewing, and other simple qualifications, to fit them for becoming domestic servants. A Savings Bank, founded in 1815, and brought to a successful issue through the indefatigable exertions of Provost Cowan, received any sum from 1s to £10; on reaching the latter figure the money had to be elsewhere deposited. By 1836 the number of accounts opened amounted to 3613, and the total amount of money to £30,017 14s 3d. Various Friendly Societies had more or less success. Charitable bequests were numerous.]

Ayr Gaol.—The prison was built at the same time with the County Buildings. . . . Within the last twelve months an entire change has been effected with respect to the treatment and discipline of the criminals confined. Formerly the prisoners were allowed to spend the day together, the males in one common apartment or day-room, and the females in another, in total idleness; wherein, by intercommunion of free speech and depraved passions, they were rendered more wretched and profligate than ever, and incarceration made them worse instead of reforming them. The younger culprits, too, were thus initiated into all the mystery and artifice of crime by those who had been accustomed to follow it as a trade. Now, however, all this is happily at an end. Each person is confined to a separate cell, and all are kept at hard labour for twelve or fourteen hours a day, without having any opportunity of seeing one another, even at their meals, which they receive alone at the periods prescribed. The prison is visited by the keeper, and the prisoners are set to work at six o'clock in the morning; and it is regularly shut at eight every night for rest, and against the admission of visitors. The prisoners are compelled to wash once every day; and their apartments are kept regularly clean and well aired. Such of them as have not learned any trade are generally taught weaving which they soon learn if young, and if old, they are employed in teasing old ship ropes into shreds, called *oakum*, which is used by shipbuilders as wadding for closing the interstices of vessels. None are allowed to remain idle . . . . ., and on leaving gaol, if they have behaved well the balance in their favour is given to them as a reward, but at the discretion of the prison committee, on the report of the keeper.

[NOTE.—The average number of prisoners daily was nearly 17, the proportion of females to males scarcely one-third.]

Fairs, Spirit Shops, Fuel.—There are four fairs held in Ayr in the course of the year, and two market days weekly, viz., Tuesday and Friday. The number of licensed spirit retailers is 106, or one to about every 70 or 80 of the population. Coal for fuel is to be got in abundance, of good quality, and at no great distance, but it is rather high priced, costing from 11s to 14s per ton, including carting.

[NOTE.—In concluding, Mr Cuthill desiderates "a rigid and uncompromising revision of the whole system of management of the poor," and, as a change that would add greatly to the prosperity of Ayr, the introduction, to a greater extent, of manufactures and other public works.]

NEWTON-UPON-AYR.

Caledonia.

Newton-upon-Ayr is a parish of very modern establishment. It was formerly included in the parish of Prestwick, but was disjoined from it, and erected into a separate parish in 1779. It is of small extent, being only about a mile and a half long, and one mile broad; comprehending the burgh, which gives its name to the parish, and the lands, commons, and property belonging to the burgh. The town stands on the northern bank of the river Ayr, opposite to the shire town, which is situated on the south bank; having only the river between them, and being connected by a bridge. They may be thus considered as one town; but are certainly distinct boroughs, having different constitutions, Ayr being a royal borough, and Newton-upon-Ayr a borough of barony. The origin of this last town is obvious, being derived from its having being founded at a much more recent period than the shire town, which was, in the same manner, called the New-town upon Ayr, till the other claimed, and was properly allowed, its name of Newton-upon-Ayr. The original charter of the creation of this New-town has been lost; and tradition has attempted to supply the defect by stating that it was created a borough of barony by Robert I.; but of this there is not the smallest evidence. The practice of creating boroughs of barony did not become common till after the middle of the fifteenth century; and of a great number of boroughs of barony in Ayrshire, nearly the whole were created in the reigns of James IV. and James V., Queen Mary, and James VI., and Charles I. Newton-upon-Ayr was certainly a borough of barony before the reign of James VI.; and appears to have been under the government of two bailies, in 1574. In 1595, James VI. granted a charter, confirming all the privileges formerly given to this borough of barony; and he granted a charter to the same effect about five years after. The borough of Newton-upon-Ayr, having greatly increased in population during the eighteenth century, and being three miles distant from the parish church of Monkton and Prestwick, in which the inhabitants of Newton had much too little accommodation, a chapel of ease was built, in 1777, by the burgesses of Newton upon Ayr, in their own borough; and in 1779 they obtained their borough, with its territory, to be erected into a separate parish, the chapel of ease being made the parish church. The burgesses purchased from the patron of Prestwick the right of appointing their own parish minister, on whom they settled a stipend, and a glebe; and in 1787 they built a manse for his accommodation; and they also appropriated a house for the parish school.

[NOTE.—At the epoch of the Union (says Chalmers) the population of this borough is supposed to be under 400 souls; in 1755, it was 740; in 1791, it was 1689; in 1801, it was 1724; in 1811, it was 2809; and in 1821, it was no fewer than 4027. This borough of Newton upon Ayr has a separate port, in the mouth of the river Ayr, on the north side; and the royal borough has its harbour on the south side.

In William Aiton's "General View of the Agriculture of the County of Ayr," published in 1811, the author says:—"The constitution of the burgh is purely republican; the very genuine principles of liberty and equality. But in practice no good has resulted from it. The freemen are below mediocrity, in wealth, industry, intelligence, education, and respectability. Their houses are mean and shabby, and their land is little better improved than it was in the days of Oliver Cromwell. The boasted-of liberties and privileges of this burgh, and that of Prestwick, are those of remaining ignorance and indolence, and despising and rejecting the improvements that are going forward in their neighbourhood."]

Statistical Account of the Parish of Newton upon Ayr by the Rev. Mr Peebles—1792.

[NOTE.—In his introductory sentences Mr Peebles emphasises the fact that the town is not the Newtown *of* Ayr, but Newton upon the banks of the river of that name. Tradition has it that it obtained its constitution in consideration of the kindness it shewed to Robert I., upon the occasion of his illness in his old age; but "the oldest paper in the custody of the community of Newton is dated 1574, and contains a short precept, directed to the two bailies of the burgh, empowering them to exercise authority in the town; but there is no signature attached to it."]

The Burgh.—The number of freemen or bur-

gesses is limited to 48, which compose the community. Each of these freemen possesses what is called a *lot* or *freedom*, containing about 4 acres of arable land, besides the common, on which the burgesses have an exclusive right to pasture their cattle. No houses are annexed to these freedoms, but every burgess must reside in the burgh, or possess a house as his property, which he may rent to any of the inhabitants. The community meet every two years to elect their magistrates, and at this election every freeman has a vote. They choose two baillies, one treasurer, and six counsellors, who have the management of everything belonging to the burgh; but on urgent occasions they call meetings of the community. Of late, little or nothing has been done without taking the sense of the freemen. This method, however, on account of their numbers, is sometimes a hindrance to business. The accounts of the treasurer are open to the inspection of every freeman, and he is accountable to the community at large. The right of succession to their freedoms is limited. A son succeeds to his father, and a widow not having a son enjoys the property of her husband as long as she lives. But as the female line is excluded, the lots or freedoms frequently revert to the town, who dispose of them to the most industrious inhabitants of the place, on their advancing a certain sum of money, which is placed in the public fund. Each freedom is valued at £25, though none have given so much for it. The common revenue of the burgh, exclusive of these freedoms, is small. It arises from certain feu duties, the rent of a mill, a ropework, some carpenters' yards, and other small properties, which produce about £60 *per annum*; but of late years they have derived considerable profit from the coal works in their estate. The fund, however, is precarious and uncertain.

The Town—Its Grounds and Surface.—The town principally consists of one large street, about 680 yards in length and about 80 feet in breadth. It is unfortunately incumbered near the bridge with a mill, &c., the removal of which would be a great convenience and improvement. There are three other streets in the parish, but their extent is not great. In that part of it called Garden Street there formerly stood a large dwelling house denominated Newton Castle, which was for a long time the property of the Wallaces of Craigie, but now some part of the wall which inclosed the garden alone remains. Thirty houses have been built in the town within these thirteen years, but ten of them on old foundations.

The greatest part of the ground belonging to the community is a dead level, lying to the east and north-east of the town. The soil is a light blowing sand, so that the land along the coast to the north-east wears a gloomy appearance. It might be meliorated by rearing plantations of Scots fir, and of the larix, but, above all, of the pineaster, which is called the maritime pine from its thriving so near the sea. No durable inclosures can be made but at a great expense. The more inland part is rather of a better soil, with a stratum of moss on the surface. It was once a morass, but was drained many years ago at some expense. By this drain the water is conveyed that serves the mill belonging to the community. A plan of all their grounds was drawn up sometime ago by the Town Council, and another was lately executed by the company who rent their coal. The arable ground consists of above 200 acres, and the common about 150. The whole is valued in the cess-books at £117 Scots, and the property is estimated to be worth in all £4000 sterling. From the nature of the soil, which is mostly a bed of blowing sand to a considerable depth, the ground is far from being fertile; it requires constant manuring to render it moderately productive. The best and most profitable crop is rye grass and clover. Oats and bear are the grains commonly sown. The seed-time for oats is from the middle of March to the middle of April, and that for barley from the 20th of April to the 25th of May. It is thought that the inhabitants sow their grain much too late. Rye is sometimes cultivated with advantage, but this crop impoverishes the ground. Sea-weed is found to answer as manure, but the quantity cast on the shore is not great. The soil, in tolerable seasons, produces excellent potatoes. The whole parish is open and unsheltered. Not a tree to be found, and no thorn hedges of any growth, owing to the violence of the westerly winds, which often blow severely on this coast during the winter season. The property of the borough, however, might be much improved, and its value greatly increased. The only public road is the highway leading through Prestwick to Kilmarnock and Glasgow, which is always kept in tolerable repair. On this road there are two turnpikes within the parish, one of which rents at £100 and the other at £285 *per annum*.

Population of the Parish.—Not above a century ago Newton contained few inhabitants, probably from 300 to 400. Within the last 40 years the number has greatly increased. This increase was chiefly owing to an extensive

herring fishery at that time carried on along this coast, particularly near the mouth of the river, which continued upwards of 15 years. When the coalleries on the Newton and Blackhouse grounds began, the number of the inhabitants still increased. In the year 1778, when the present incumbent made his first parochial visitation, the number from 7 years of age and upwards was 1200, and that of souls 1600. Since that time no enumeration of souls hath been taken. For some years afterwards the number rather decreased, owing to the failure of the coal works. But since these have been resumed, which was about 5 years ago, the number has been increasing. At the last visitation, in summer, 1790, there were found 1350 persons from 7 years and upwards. Of these, 610 were males and 740 females—the number of families amounting to 380, the number of souls to about 1750.

The number of births for the last ten years at an average amounts to above 46, and of marriages about 13 annually. No exact account can be given of the number of deaths, as no proper burial ground has been allotted for the use of the inhabi ants—the greatest part burying in Prestick or Ayr, in St. Quivox, and the burying ground belonging to the Seceding meeting-house, in the parish of St. Quivox. Burial ground is much needed, which the community might provide at a small expense by inclosing a part of their waste land in the vicinity of the town. The number of deaths is supposed to amount to 30 annually. The whole of the inhabitants belong to the Established Church, a few families excepted (about 12 in all), who are mostly of the sect called the Antiburgher Seceders.

Ecclesiastical State of the Parish.—The next article that deserves attention is the erection of Newton into a separate parish. The borough lying at the distance of 3 miles from Monkton, formerly the parish church, where the inhabitants had little or no accommodation, the community, from the funds of the town, generously built the present house for public worship in the year 1777, which was at first established with consent of the presbytery on the footing of a chapel of ease. Finding this plan attended with some disadvantages, the community, in the year 1778, applied to the Lords Commissioners for plantation of kirks, and valuation of tiends, to have their town disjoined from the united parishes of Monkton and Prestwick and erected into a separate parish. In consequence of this application, they obtained a decreet for that purpose in 1779, having previously purchased the right of patronage to their church from the patrons of the united parishes of Monkton and Prestwick. By the above decreet it is established that the community shall choose, every year, 13 of their number to manage the secular affairs of the church, who are styled delegates. When a vacancy takes place these 13 delegates have the sole power of electing a pastor, and of granting a presentation, with this proviso, that 9 of the 13 must be unanimous in the choice.

The stipend at first amounted only to £65, but it has since received an addition of £10 *per annum* in lieu of the coal below the glebe. In 1780 the town granted a glebe of 4½ acres, part of which is now occupied by the manse and garden. The ground being poor and of a light sand, it rented, before the manse was built, only at 5 guineas *per annum*, though in the vicinity of a populous place. All that is allowed for grass is the liberty of keeping a cow and her follower on the common belonging to the town. The glebe is not well inclosed, which lessens its value. The melioration of glebes by inclosing, which has been under the consideration of the General Assembly, deserves every possible encouragement. A manse was first built in 1787. A house is also appropriated for the parish school. The number of scholars that attend it is from 40 to 50. The wages are 2s per quarter for English, 2s 6d for writing, and 3s for arithmetic. There are some private schools in the town, and a few of the inhabitants send their children to the schools of Ayr, being almost equally near.

Poor of the Parish.—Owing to the want of manufactures of every kind, and to the constant influx of beggars from Ireland, few places, in proportion to their extent, are more distressed with poor than this parish. Many of them, indeed, who reside only a short time in the place can lay no legal claim to supplies from the kirk-session, but they are still a burden to the inhabitants by their begging from door to door. The number of monthly pensioners is daily increasing, while the only fund to be distributed among them is small and precarious. There is no fund, indeed, for the purpose but what arises from collections at the church doors on Sundays, and sacramental occasions, amounting in whole to £50 *per annum*. At present there are 18 pensioners on the poors roll, each of which receives from 2s to 4s 6d per month, besides others who are supplied occasionally. No stent or tax has been laid on the inhabitants for the support of the poor, but if their demands continue to increase as they have done for several years past, that measure will soon

become unavoidable. Attempts have often been made to establish regulations concerning the poor in this part of the country, but, from various causes, they have proved unsuccessful.

Coal.—A considerable quantity of coal is found in the grounds belonging to the community, and has been wrought for many years. It was rented from the town at £250 *per annum*, but the work was abandoned about 10 years ago, and the lease was consequently broken. It was resumed in 1786 by a company of respectable gentlemen at Edinburgh, and has ever since been carried on with success. The tacksmen pay a duty of 6d to the town for every ton they raise. The first 3 or 4 years the town's profits amounted to above £300 *per annum*, which makes the number of tons above 12,000 yearly, but for the two last years the produce has not been so considerable. The greatest part of the coal is shipped for Ireland. The present company, at some expense, have made a waggon way from the pits to the harbour, the road reaching to the quay, which renders it exceedingly convenient for loading vessels. The price of the coal is 5s 6d per ton, each ton weighing 24 cwt. The quantity of water in the pits is so considerable that it was found necessary to erect a large steam engine. The pumps are of 14 inches bore, and the quantity of water discharged is 36 gallons at each stroke, the stroke being repeated about ten times in the minute, or 360 gallons in the minute. This discharge continues 20 hours in the 24. There are two seams of coal, about 4 feet thick each. The upper seam is 30 fathoms deep from the surface, the greatest part of which, near the town, is already wrought. The lower seam, which is 20 fathoms deeper than the upper, is still untouched. No probable conjecture has been formed, what quantity of coals remains in the grounds of the community. There is another coal pit in the parish belonging to a private individual, wrought by the above tacksmen, for which they pay a duty of 10d per ton; but it is of small extent, and will soon be exhausted. The coal in the Blackhouse grounds, in the neighbourhood, being in the parish of St. Quivox, comes not within the limits of this description.

Harbour.—Newton-upon-Ayr is a sea-port town, the north-east side of the river lying in the parish, which, with the other side in the parish of Ayr, forms the harbour. The town, like that of Ayr, is situated at a small distance above the place where the vessels lie. A few houses, of late, have been built nearer the quay. The entrance to the harbour has always been precarious, by reason of a bank at the mouth of the river, formed chiefly by the sand that is carried down the river by land floods; of late years the access has been still more difficult. The bed of the river is narrow, and the depth of water at spring tides not above 12 feet, so that vessels exceeding 140 tons, register burden, cannot be brought over the bar. In December, 1789, considerable damage was done to the shipping of this place; no less a number than 12 vessels, in one night, were stranded, some to the south, and others to the north of the harbour. One of them was totally wrecked, and all the hands in it perished; several men, on board the other vessels, at the same time lost their lives. This deplorable calamity pointed out the necessity of erecting a lighthouse. The design was accordingly carried into execution by the gentlemen who rent the coal belonging to the community. At their own expense they erected, last year, two reflecting lights, both of which stand on the north-east side of the harbour, in this parish. A small duty is paid by each vessel for maintaining them.

Though these lights were only erected in October, 1790, they have already been found very beneficial. The greatest attention has been paid to them, so that no accidents have happened through neglect.

The principal trade carried on at present in the harbour is the exportation of coal. For four years past, above 300 vessels have been annually loaded with coal, which go to Dublin, Belfast, Learne, and other places in Ireland. A few vessels are also employed in bringing fir in logs and plank from Memel and other parts in the East seas. Since the annexation of the Isle of Man to the Crown, and particularly since the late Acts of Parliament concerning smuggling, any species of illicit trade is now little practised in this or in any other part of the neighbourhood. There are two packet boats to Greenock, one to Liverpool, and sometimes one goes to Campbelton. No regular stated communication has hitherto been formed between this port and London.

Shipbuilding and Ropework.—For many years past shipbuilding has been carried on at this harbour, but it is only of late that this branch has met with any particular encouragement. By the activity and diligence of some individuals in the parish, a number of vessels have been constructed, and the business seems to proceed with spirit and vigour. It is carried on chiefly on this side of the river, as affording many more conveniences than the other. Fifty hands are employed in this branch of business, whose wages are from 20d to 22d per day. Oak wood

is brought from England and Wales, fir from Dantzick. The extent of the trade at this time will be about £5000 *per annum*.

The only ropework in the neighbourhood is on this side of the river. Some years ago little was done in this line, but it is now beginning to revive. Ten hands are employed in manufacturing ropes. The extent of the business is from £1500 to £2000 *per annum*. The hemp is imported for Petersburgh.

Fisheries.—A sa mon fishing is carried on at the mouth of the river and along the coast, as far as the parish extends, to the northward. This fishing, it is said, originally belonged to the burgh of Newton, which is the more probable, as fisheries are particularly mentioned in their charter; but it was purchased from them, or otherwise got possession of, by the Wallaces of Craigie, who retained it in their hands till within these few years, when the estate was sold. It was then purchased by a society of writers or attornies in the town of Ayr, who paid £1100 sterling for it, and now it rents at £80 *per annum*. Four boats are employed in this fishing, and four men to each boat; their wage is 1s per day.

White fish, haddocks, cod, and ling, with a few mackerel, flounders, and lobsters, are taken in this bay. This fishing is carried on by some of the natives of the town, but chiefly by a set of fishers who, within these 20 years, came from the parish of Pitsligo and the adjacent places in the north country. Most of them reside in this parish, and they are an industrious set of people; but their profits are not considerable. Nine boats, and 4 men to each boat, are employed in this fishery.

Seal fishing is also followed by a few of the inhabitants. One of the fishers in this branch obtained, for several years past, a considerable premium from the Trustees of the fisheries for his diligence and success. Several go to the herring busses in the West Highlands and Islands, but the two last years were remarkably unfavourable, so that they were great losers by the expedition. The number of hands employed at sea from this parish, exclusive of the salmon, the seal, and white fishing, amounts to 50, some of whom, at one season of the year, go abroad in trading vessels, and at another are engaged in the herring fishery.

Diseases.—We shall conclude this account with a few remarks on the health of the inhabitants. Though the grounds of the parish lie low, yet the air is pure and healthy, owing to the vicinity of the sea and the dry sandy bottom of the soil. No endemical disorders are peculiar to the inhabitants, and infectious diseases seldom prevail to any great height. It is, however, affirmed by some of the medical department that the air is too pure for constitutions inclining to a consumptive habit; few of the natives of the place, however, fall a sacrifice to that distemper. The health of the inhabitants is much injured by the too frequent use of spirituous liquors. And it would be advantageous both to their health and morals if there were fewer alehouses. Though the town is of small extent, it is computed that there are 12 public houses, besides several places where spirituous liquors are sold. On the whole, however, though the inhabitants in general do not arrive at extreme old age, there are few places where the inestimable blessing of health is enjoyed to a greater degree, so that this part of the country has, with some justice, been called the *Montpelier* of Scotland.

The New Statistical Account.

[NOTE.—The account of the parish of Newton-upon-Ayr is the work of the Rev. James Stevenson, A.M., the then minister of the parish, and is dated May, 1837. Having briefly dealt with the name and boundaries, he gives three meteorological tables, two dealing with the directions of the wind, and one with the average height of the barometer. During 1820, 1825, 1830, and 1835, the directions of the wind (mean) were:—North, 21; north-east, 20·5; east, 41·5; south-east, 36·5; south, 34·5; south-west, 88·5; west, 73·75; north-west, 48.75. In 1836 the directions, in days, were:—North, 18; north-east, 31; east, 43; south-east, 26; south, 13; south-west, 107; west, 82; north-west, 46. The annual average of the barometer was: In 1818, 29·88; 1819, 29·95; 1820, 30·09. "The air is pure and bracing; and there are few places where the blessing of health is enjoyed in a greater degree. No disease can be said particularly to prevail, and many of the inhabitants attain to a good old age."]

Geology and Mineralogy.—The whole parish is covered immediately below the soil with beds of sand and gravel; and beneath these is a bed of clay interspersed with numerous water-worn stones, chiefly of augite-greenstone. On the surface of the clay there are numerous boulder stones of considerable size, which are also, for the most part, of the same rock. Below these beds of sand, gravel, and clay are found those stratified rocks, known by the name of coal-measures. The direction of the dip is to the north, and of course the rise is to the south.

. . . . . Each of the two workable beds of coal contained in the mineral field is nearly four feet in thickness. The upper is a soft coal, the second is very hard, and of the description called splint coal. The distance between the two beds is about twenty-six fathoms, and the intervening strata are alternations of bituminous or aluminous shale and sandstone.

The working of coal was formerly carried on to a great extent in this parish, and during a period of 60 years. At one time the profits of the freemen of the burgh from this source amounted to more than £300 per annum. But in 1832 the pits were closed; both seams of coal being then exhausted.

There are at present no workings of minerals in the parish with the exception of a sandstone, or freestone quarry at its northern extremity, which, although not long opened, is believed to contain a freestone bed of great thickness, and promises to afford a large supply of building materials. On removing the sand and gravel from the surface of the rock, with which it is covered to the depth of 15 feet, there were found numerous bones of animals and decayed pieces of wood; and in one spot close upon the freestone, a copper coin of the reign of Charles the Second, which, as the quarry is about 200 yards from high water mark, seems to prove that there has been a progressive advancement of the coast upon the sea. There is one exception, however, to this remark, as applied to this parish, which must not be left unnoticed. While the land towards the north appears to be gaining on the sea, the sea, on the other hand, has been rapidly encroaching upon the coast at the other end of the parish, immediately behind the harbour. This has been ascribed to the pier being carried farther out on the other side of the river than it has yet been on this side; a supposition which is rendered the more probable by the circumstance that, while the sea is making encroachments on the north side of the river, it is proportionably receding on the south side. But whatever be the cause, several acres of land behind the pier in this parish, on which a row of houses stood within the last ten or twelve years, have been overflowed by the sea, and are now within high water mark.

[NOTE.—Thirty different species of fishes had been reckoned up, commonly or occasionally sold or used for food, including turbot, sole, halibut, shrimp, mullet, horse-mackerel, sun-fish, pilchard, conger-eel, silver sole, Portugal shark or sheer dog, porpoise, spout whale or herring-hoy, kethick or sea-devil, and ink-fish. The Botany of the parish was limited.

Dealing with the constitution of the Burgh, Mr Stevenson notes that "latterly, daughters have been admitted as well as sons, and other relations besides direct descendants to inherit the right of freedom; and in certain cases the widows of freemen have been admitted to enjoy a life-rent of the lot or portion of lands which belonged to their husbands."]

It would appear that the common property has been divided among the forty-eight freemen, from time to time, from the first erection of the burgh. But the first *daill*, or division, of which there is any record, took place in 1604, and was to subsist till 1615. Owing, however, to the want of entries in the community-book for a considerable period after this last date, we have no account of another *daill* till 1665, which was also to subsist for eleven years. But from 1666 till 1771, a new partition was made every seven years, and the allotments made are regularly recorded. In this last mentioned year, in order to put an end to the evils which had been experienced from the short period of possession which they had heretofore enjoyed, the freemen resolved that the division which then fell to be made should continue for 57 years. And when this period expired in 1828, it was determined that the continuance of the lots which were then balloted for should be for 999 years.

[NOTE.—With the finding of coal the value of the freedoms, which varied from six to ten acres, increased; and of thirty freedoms sold within the previous forty years, the prices varied from £70 to £500. There were, in 1837, 218 occupants in the parish of £5 yearly and upwards, of whom 100 were computed to have tenements at or above £10 yearly. The parochial registers had been carefully kept since 1779. The Antiquities included Newton Castle, the only part of which then standing was portion of a wall that enclosed the garden, the castle itself having been broken down 60 or 70 years previous. "Among its ruins were found an antique mathematical quadrant, and the barrel of an old gun, or rather wall-piece, seven feet long, and very heavy, both of which are preserved in the library belonging to the Ayr Mechanics Institution."

At the Union the population was supposed to have been under 400; in 1755, about 581; in 1778, 1600; in 1791, 1689—836 males and 853 females; in 1801, 1724; 1811, 2809;

1821, 4027; 1831, 4020—1927 males and 2093 females. Of the population in 1831, 3768 resided in the town and 252 in the country. The number of inhabited houses was 453. Insane and fatuous persons, 3; blind, 3; deaf and dumb, 2; illegitimate births, about 12 yearly.]

Character and Habits of the People.—There is not much that is distinctive in the character or manners of the inhabitants. The freemen were at one time somewhat rude and unpolished, and by no means noted for the decorum observed by them at their public convivial entertainments. They have even been accused of being "below mediocrity in wealth, industry, intelligence, education, and respectability"—a charge for which, at the time when it was made, its author was certainly much more indebted to fancy than to fact. But whatever may have been the case in former days, the freemen, as a body, are now highly respectable; almost all of them are in comfortable circumstances; and a considerable portion of their number much above mediocrity in wealth, education, and intelligence.

The fishermen are the most peculiar class of the inhabitants. Several of them are the descendants of a colony from Pitsligo and some places adjacent, which settled in this place sixty years ago. They were induced to do so from some of their number, who had been impressed on board a man-of-war, which was for a considerable time stationed in the Firth of Clyde, having observed that fishes were to be found on this coast in great abundance. The form of the fishermen's coats is a little singular; and until lately, their Sunday's dress consisted of home-made blue cloth. They live, as might be supposed, to a considerable extent on fish; and it is alleged are not so attentive as could be wished to cleanliness in their habits. But to this remark there are not a few honourable exceptions. Fish are here obtained so cheap, and excellent in quality, that they are a very common article of food. Beer was formerly a favourite beverage, and was taken by the fishermen in their boats in preference to whisky. But the number of brewers has of late years declined; and it is to be feared that with the diminished consumption of beer, ardent spirits are proportionably in greater request.

It is pleasing to state that poaching is almost unknown. The same may be said of smuggling. And there is not a pawn-broking establishment in the town.

[NOTE. There were comparatively few persons living in extreme poverty. An unusual proportion of families lived in houses built by themselves. Instances of gross immorality were unfrequent. Church accommodation was not sufficient for the population, but even the non-church goers were superior in character to what might have been anticipated.

The cultivated, or occasionally cultivated, acreage of the parish was 336; the acreage in waste, or pasture, 93; the number that might be added to the cultivated, 76. There was no undivided common. There were almost no trees in the parish. Improvements in the soil had increased the value of the freedoms more than ten times within forty years. Land ranged in value from £5 to 10s an acre; average about £1 15s. The rent of grazing a cow was from £4 to £5.

There were seven fishing boats with four men in each. About twenty years previous their wages were 3s 6d a day, but they had fallen to 2s. Their range of fishing and of market had become circumscribed, and "they are now limited to the supplying of Ayr and the neighbouring villages. The consequence is the fishermen are generally poor, and are no longer the respectable class of men which they were in more prosperous days."

The total yearly value of raw produce raised was £2666. Of this, grain represented £488; potatoes and turnips, £202; hay, £55; land in pasture, £471; fisheries (estimated), £1050; freestone quarry, £400.]

Manufactures.—The most important of these are ship-building, rope and sail making, iron and brass founding, and smith work.

Shipbuilding has for a long period been carried on at this harbour. About 30 years ago there were not less than 200 men employed; but it afterwards gradually declined till within the last ten years. It has of late been carried on to a considerable extent in the wood-yard of Messrs Cowan & Sloan. In 1831 a patent slip was erected by Mr Morton, the patentee; and since that time 111 vessels have been taken on and repaired, and nine new ones have been built, registering from 47 to 433 tons each. Some of these have been constructed by orders of shipowners in Greenock, and one for the East India trade. Betwixt 40 and 50 hands are constantly employed, who work eight hours in winter, and ten in summer, and earn from 18s to £1 per week. In the rope and sail-work, 10 hands are at present employed, whose weekly wages are from 12s to 15s.

There are four foundries, in which machinery of all kinds is manufactured, and smith-work

executed; but none of them are on an extensive scale. The working hours are 10 per day ; 34 men and 18 boys are at present employed ; and the average weekly wages are: for men 16s, and for boys 5s. There is also a salt-work, containing two pans, in which salt is made chiefly from the rock imported from Liverpool. Five men are employed in it, whose wages are 10s 6d a week.

It may be mentioned, as the result of a careful survey, that, in addition to fishermen, carpenters, and smiths, whose numbers have been already stated, there are in the parish 400 weavers employed by agents for Glasgow houses, 27 colliers, 34 masons, 20 sawyers, and (including 12 shipmasters) about 100 seamen. It may not be unimportant to add that, as nearly as can be estimated, there are 600 or 700 women, principally girls and unmarried women, employed in hand-sewing for warehouses in Glasgow.

The Ayrshire needle-work, so extensively known and so justly celebrated, was executed in this parish forty years ago ; and it has been gradually improving until the present day. It consists of various patterns sewed on muslin and cambric for ladies' dresses, ladies' robes, capes, &c. From the year 1815, when *point* was introduced into the work, the demand for it in London and other parts of England, as well as in Dublin and Edinburgh, has increased to a considerable extent. It is also sent to France, Russia, and Germany, and is exposed to sale in the shops of Paris. This valuable means of employment affords a fair profit to the manufacturer, and gives support to many respectable females, who, by dint of industry, can earn from 1s to 1s 6d, and in some cases 2s per day. In this work, which is confined to Ayr and its neighbourhood, several hundreds are engaged ; and it is calculated that at least from 50 to 60 of them, who are chiefly young women, reside in the parish of Newton.

[NOTE.—The yearly exportation of coal amounted to 40,000 tons, which, at the then price of 13s per ton of 28 cwt., made the value of this trade £26,000 per annum.

The church and manse were erected by the freemen at a cost of about £2000. The church's secular affairs were managed by thirteen delegates, representing the freemen, who had the sole power of electing a minister, it being necessary that nine should concur in the choice. The church was built in 1778, and having been enlarged, afforded accommodation for 1032 persons. No free sittings. The manse was built in 1787 and repaired in 1827; size of garden, glebe, &c., 6½ acres, valued at £15 a year. The stipend was £60, with £5 for a cow's grass, and was supplemented by a grant of £95 by the freemen and by £90 allowed by Government—in all £250. For sacramental expenses £8 were allowed. There was no other church nor any dissenting chapel in the parish. The inhabitants were thus classified in 1835-6, with the number of sittings possessed by them respectively in their places of worship :—

Established Church, ..	2960,	holding 708	sittings.
Relief, ...	282,	,, 116	,,
United Secession, ...	188,	,, 85	,,
Original Seceders, ...	102,	,, 51	,,
Reformed Presbyterians, .	47,	,, 15	,,
Methodists, ...	86,	,, 24	,,
Episcopalians, ...	51,	,, 13	,,
Independents, ...	20,	,, 11	,,
Moravians, ...	9,	,, 1	,,
Roman Catholics, ...	205,	,, 39	,,
No denomination, ...	87,	,, 0	,,
	4037		1063

The result was that 2960 persons professing to belong to the Established Church held 708 sittings, and of that number 801 were communicants ; 990 Dissenters of all denominations held 355 sittings, and among them were 350 communicants.

There were five schools in the parish. The parish school had 91 pupils, and the schoolmaster had a minimum salary. The total number of school children in the parish was 250. The parochial library, instituted in 1829, contained about 500 volumes. There were two friendly societies belonging to the parish, and these were not prosperous. The poor on the roll averaged under 60 ; the income about £168, the expenditure corresponding ; monthly pensioners averaged 4s 6d a month. The funds were raised by church collections, amounting to about £100 a year, and by assessment varying from £45 to £50.

There were 30 public houses, or places where spirituous liquors were sold—one to every 29 families.

Almost the only fuel used was coal—price 6s 9d per cart load of 14 cwts.

In conclusion, Mr Stevenson contrasts the present with the previous conditions of the parish described in the first Statistical Account. In the close of last century "each freedom is valued at £25, though none have given so much for it." Freedoms in 1837 were estimated at from £300 to £400, and some had been bought at as much as £500. Gas lighting and the better paving of some of the streets were desiderated by way of improvement.]

MONKTOWN AND PRESTWICK.

Caledonia.

The united parish of Monktown and Prestwick comprehends the whole of the old parish of Monktown, which was anciently called Prestwick, and a great part of the old parish of Prestwick, that was anciently called Prestwick-borough. It also comprehends on the north the *chapelry of Crosby*, which anciently belonged to Dundonald parish. The old parishes of Monktown and Prestwick existed in the 12th century, and were then called *Prestwic* and *Prestwic-burgh*.

[NOTE by Chalmers.—The parish of Prestwic-burgh lay on the south of the parish of Prestwic, which was afterwards called Monktown, from which it was separated by the rivulet called anciently Pol-Prestwic, which is now Dowburn. From the rivulet the parish of Prestwic-burgh extended southward to the river Ayr. It continued of that extent, when it was annexed to Monktown, and long after. In 1779 the southern end, next to the river Ayr, was detached, and erected into a separate parish, which was called Newtown-upon-Ayr.]

The names of Prestwic are derived from the Anglo Saxon *Prestwic*, signifying the priests' habitation or village. The church of Prestwic was dedicated to the Saxon St. Cuthbert, and the church of Prestwic-burgh to St. Nicholas. Both these parishes, and the patronage of the churches, belonged to Walter, the son of Alan, the first of the Stewarts, who was lord of all the northern half of Kyle, between the rivers Ayr and Lugar on the south and the river Irvine on the north; and this country was called from him *Walter's Kyle*, and afterwards *Kyle Stewart*, to distinguish it from the southern half of Kyle, between the Ayr and the Lugar on the north and the Doon on the south, which belonged to the sovereign and were called *King's Kyle*. In the beginning of the reign of William the Lion, Walter granted to the monastery which he had founded at Paisley, the church of Prestwic, with the lands, which formed the manor of Prestwic, and he also granted to the same monastery the church of Prestwic burgh, with its pertinents. In 1227, Walter, the bishop of Glasgow, made an ordinance respecting all the churches belonging to the monks of Paisley, within his diocese, whereby it was settled that the vicar of the church of St. Cuthbert of Prestwic should have, in the name of vicarage, six chalders of meal yearly, with the altarages, and the monks were allowed to hold the church of St. Nicholas of Prestwic-burgh solely to their own use; they finding a chaplain to serve the cure. This settlement continued till the Reformation. The monks of Paisley having obtained from Walter, not only the church of Prestwic, with the glebe and pertinents, but the property of the lands forming the manor of Prestwic, this place was called "*the Monk's Prestwic*," and afterwards *Monk-town*. This last superseded the original name, which was dropt; and the village, the church, and the parish have since been called Monktown. After this change of the name of Prestwic to Monktown, the other parish of Prestwic-burgh was simply called Prestwic, the adjunct being no longer necessary to distinguish it from the adjoining parish, which was called Monktown. The monks of Paisley continued to hold the two parishes of Monktown and Prestwic till the Reformation The church of Monktown was served by a vicar, who had the altarages, and a fixed stipend of six chalders of meal; as we have seen. In Bagimont's Roll, as it stood in the reign of James V., the vicarage of Monktown was taxed £4, being a tenth of the estimated value. The church of Prestwic was served by a chaplain, who was found by the monks, and paid at their discretion; and they drew the whole of the tithes and profits; and hence Prestwic was not rated in Bagimont's Roll. In 1587 Lord Claud Hamilton, the Commendator of Paisley, obtained a grant of the patronage of the churches of Monktown and Prestwic, and of their tithes, along with the other property of the monks of Paisley, the whole of which was erected for him into a temporal lordship in fee, with the title of Lord Paisley. In 1621 he was succeeded in all those objects by his grandson James, Earl of Abercorn. At what time the parishes of Monktown and Prestwic were united does not appear; but the union probably took place in the seventeenth century. There was conjoined to them on the north the small parish of Crossby, which was a chapelry belonging to the parish of Dundonald, before the Reformation. Crossby Chapel was situated in the manor of Crossby, which obtained its name from the Anglo-Saxon *Cross-bye*, signifying the dwelling at the Cross. The manor of Crossby was a part of the extensive property which was acquired by Walter, the first Stewart in Kyle. This manor was held under the Stewarts by Fullerton of Crossby, in the 14th century and perhaps during an earlier age. It continued to belong to the family of Fullerton till the beginning of the 19th century. As an appurtement of the church of Dundonald

the chaplainry of Crossby was granted, with that church, by the second Walter, the Stewart, as we have seen, to the convent, which he founded at Dalmullin in 1229. When the convent was relinquished, in 1238, the chapel of Crossby was transferred, with the church of Dundonald, to the monks of Paisley, and belonged to them till the Reformation. After that epoch the patronage of Crossby Chapel was acquired by Fullerton of Fullerton, the proprietor of the barony of Crossby, and the chapelry was converted into a parish. Crossby being a small parish, was afterwards annexed to the parish of Monktown, and now forms the north-western part of the united parish of Monkton and Prestwick. After the annexation the church of Crossby was allowed to fall into ruins. The churches of Monkton and Prestwic are both very old buildings, as they existed long before the Reformation. After the union of the two parishes the church of Monktoun was chiefly used as the parish church; but the minister of the united parish preached every third Sunday in the church of Prestwick, till 1779. In this year the southern part of the parish of Prestwick, consisting of the lands of *Newton upon Ayr*, was detached from Prestwic, and formed into a separate parish by the old name of *Newton-upon-Ayr*. Since that time the church of Monktoun has remained the only church of the united parish. The church of Prestwick, though disused, continues standing at the ancient burgh of Prestwick, which, though now a mean place, has the distinction of being the most *ancient burgh of a baron* in Ayrshire. It existed as such when William began to reign in 1165, as the property of Walter, the first Stewart, who called it "Burgo meo de Prestwic." It thus appears to have been more ancient than the *royalty* of the shire town. The ancient burgh of Prestwic was the head *Baronial* burgh of the bailliery of Kyle Stewart, which, after the accession of the Stewarts to the throne, was included, by Robert III, in *the principality* which he created in 1404. After that epoch the burgh of Prestwic held of the Prince, and Stewart of Scotland, as its superior lord. In 1600 James VI., as administrator for his son Henry, the Prince of Scotland, gave a new charter to the burgh of Prestwic, renewing and continuing its rights and privileges as a free burgh of barony. This charter states that it was known to have been a free burgh of barony beyond the memory of man, for the space of 617 years before the renewal.

[NOTE.—This statement, says Chalmers, would carry its origin back to A.D. 983, far beyond the epoch of record, and still further from the truth.]

By that charter the free holders have a right to choose a provost, and two bailies, with counsellors, and to grant franchises to several trades, to hold weekly markets and one annual fair, on the 6th of December, the festival of St. Nicholas the patron of the burgh. Several of those privileges have fallen into disuse. This burgh has a market cross, at which the process of the law is usually executed. The lands belonging to this burgh, extending to about 1000 Scots acres, are divided among thirty-six freemen, or *barons*, as they are called, each of whom possesses a lot of arable land, and a right of pasturing a certain number of sheep, or cattle, on the common. None of them can sell their freeholds, but to the community, who have a right to sell them again to whom they please. The magistrates have power to regulate the police of the burgh, and a jurisdiction over the freemen for enforcing the recovery of small debts. Though they have the power of committing a freeman to prison, they cannot lock the doors upon him; but, if he comes out of the prison, without proper liberation by the magistrates, he loses his freedom, or baronship in the burgh. The town of Prestwick contained, in 1792, about 66 inhabited houses, and 266 inhabitants. The patronage of the united parish of Monkton and Prestwick now belongs to Reid of Adamton.

Statistical Account of the Parish of Monktown and Prestick by the Rev. Andrew Mitchell, D.D.

[NOTE.—Chalmers borrowed to a considerable extent from the contribution by Dr Mitchell published in the twelfth volume of the old Statistical Account, 1794. What therefore has already appeared there is no reason to repeat, and we have excised it accordingly.]

The village and church of Monktown are distant from the sea about a mile. The prospect is agreeable and pleasant, and the air salubrious. Seldom any epidemical diseases prevail, but such as are common. The village (of Monktown) contains about 34 dwelling houses and 46 families, and is intersected by 3 toll roads; one leading from Ayr to Irvine, another to Kilmarnock and Glasgow, and the third to Tarbolton and St Quivox.

Church of Monktown, Burgh of Prestick, &c.—The church of Monktown is an old fabric; no person alive can give any account when it was built. The burgh of Prestick contains about 66 dwelling-houses, and 266 persons, 53 of whom are under 7 years of age. There are 36 free-

holders in the burgh, whose freeholds at present are reckoned, at an average, at 50s yearly, with a privilege of pasturage for 72 soums of sheep upon the common, 5 sheep being reckoned to a soum. Sometimes poinds are driven and executed at the cross of Prestick. None can sell their freedom but to the community, who have power to sell it to whom they please, upon paying the agreed price. Males and females equally succeed to the freeholds, in which their charter differs from that of Newtown, renewed much about the same time. The kirk of Prestick still stands, and is an old fabric that subsisted in the time of Popery. The walls are thick, and supported with stone-buttresses at the E. end; is distant from the sea less than a quarter of a mile, and much exposed to the storms. From it there is a beautiful prospect of the Craig of Ailsa, the Heads of Ayr, and the Frith of Clyde, where the ships from Greenock, Saltcoats, and Irvine are frequently passing outward and inward bound, and it serves as a land-mark for ships at sea.

[NOTE by Dr Mitchell.—The side walls are 3½, and the west gable 3 feet 10 inches thick; and still stands, though bended off the perpendicular on one side, and rent in the west gable. The roof is mostly oak. It has stood since the Reformation, and is probably the same kirk that was in the time of Sir William Wallace, Warden of Scotland, when the contest about the freedom and independence of the Scottish Crown commenced, under Edward I., and continued for about the space of 40 years. Wallace is reported to have had a remarkable dream near this kirk, where Sir Ronald Crawford of Crosby, his uncle, sheriff of the county, had appointed a convention before that fatal Justice Ayre, held by the English in the town of Ayr. After performing his devotions in the church, he fell asleep in some place nigh to it, and had a delineation of his future fortune in a visionary scheme upon his imagination; and upon his awakening had a particular interpretation of it, by a man whom he found upon the spot. The whole is related in the poem of Blind Harry, in his 7th Book, who copied the facts from the history of Wallace's life, written in Latin by Mr John Blair, Wallace's intimate friend and companion.]

Patron, Stipend.—Patron, Robert Reid, Esq. of Adamton. The stipend of Monktown, Prestick, and Crosby, consists of 50 bolls bear, 29 bolls 2 firlots meal, £25 5s 3-3-12thd sterling, to which the Lords Commissioners of Kirks and Teinds have added, by decreet of augmentation, lately obtained, 4 chalders, half meal, half bear, with £5 sterling for communion elements, besides manse and glebe.

Soil.—The soil of Monktown and Prestick is in general fruitful, diversified in its quality. Upon the E. and highest part of it, it is an earthy clay, in the middle, deep and loamy, and, as it approaches the sea, is sandy and benty downs, that answer for the pasturing of young cattle; and, from saltness of the water, and warmth of the climate, judged conducive to the recovery of weak sheep. Snow and frost are of short duration in the winter, and the pasture open. The grounds are mostly enclosed with ditch and hedge in the Monktown part of the parish, and properly subdivided into parks, with extensive belts of planting. In Prestick, the enclosures are few, the soil sandy, and the tenure by which they hold their freedoms unfavourable for such improvement, being subject to a revolution every 19 years, when, by a rule now established, they are to cast lots for the respective freedom each freeman is to possess. The soil is better towards the F., where it joins the Newtown loch and St Quivox. The lower part next the village produces crops of rye, oats, and bear, which are good in wet seasons. The soil there is found good for crops of potatoes, and might produce turnip. The most of the enclosing and planting has been made within these 60 years, and there are people still alive who remember when it began. The ground rents paid by the tenants, at present, are generally from 25s to 35s and 40s the acre, and some pay more. Grass lets at 21s, 25s, and some 30s the acre. The soil being light rich mould, naturally runs into grass and white clover when fallow. Before enclosing, some people remember that the highest rent for croft land was 10 merks Scots; and outfield 2s 6d or 3s 4d sterling.

Agriculture, &c.—The cultivation is usually 2 years oats, then bear or barley laid down with grass seeds, sometimes pease and beans, and afterward a crop of oats. When the ground is laid down with grass seeds, or, after cutting 1 or 2 years, in hay, it usually lies in ley 4 or 6 years. The farmers generally use 3 horses, with a plough after the English form, and some use only two horses. The usual time of sowing is about the middle of March and beginning of April, and bear or barley about the middle of May—reaping in August and September; hay harvest in June and July. The manure used by the farmers near the sea, who have the privilege, is sea ware, remarkable for raising crops of sown grass and crops of bear or barley,

but does not meliorate above 2 years. They also use lime, of which they have no quarries, but buy and drive at the distance of 3 or 4 miles. There are not above 3 freestone quarries in the parish, which increases the price of building considerably, and as yet no coal mines have been found; but there are appearances that indicate that such may be found in process of time, and will undoubtedly turn out to great advantage, as lying near the sea. The quantity of natural wood is 36 acres, besides large plantations.

There are no rivers in the parish, but there are 3 rivulets: 1, the Pow-burn, over which there is one bridge, on the toll-road leading from Monktown to Ayr, and another lately begun to be erected on the road to St Quivox and Tarbolton. The other 2 rivulets are called Rumbler-burn and Fall-burn, which all run into the sea, and in summer are mostly dry. At present there is only 1 mill in the parish for grinding grain, and another for flax, kept by the same miller. Few are astricted to it, the farmers being at liberty to carry their grain to any mill they please, without being oppressed with multures, which are a great discouragement to agriculture.

The usual produce after milling oats, is 18, 19, and 20 pecks the Winchester boll, now the standard measure of this country. The amount of oats milled by the different farmers in Monktown and Prestick, by an account given by themselves in the year 1791, was 1315 bolls; and bear sold, and otherwise disposed of, 399 bolls. The oats, bear, and barley are reckoned to be of the best quality, and bring a high price in the market. There is little wheat sown, though in most places the soil is sufficiently strong, and when sown produces good crops. The culture of turnips is only beginning to be introduced. One farmer has sowed 6 or 7 acres, and finds his account in it, by feeding black cattle for the market, and preparing the soil for bear and wheat, and likewise sending them to the market of Ayr. Potatoes are mostly planted for family use, and reckoned to amount to about 23 or 24 acres in the whole parish at present, about 13 in Monktown, and 10 in Prestick.

Population. — According to Dr Webster's report, the number of souls in 1755, was 1163. In Monktown there are 6 heritors, 3 of whom reside. Examinable persons, 567; below that age, 150; total, 717. Average of baptisms, 20; marriages, 7; deaths, 10.

The present calculation will not correspond to Dr Webster's, as that account was given to him before the disjunction and erection of Newtown. That the population is greatly increased, cannot be doubted, as the farms have been divided into small proportions, and new farm houses built. There have been built 8 new houses in Monktown village, and 4 new farm houses, besides 2 cotton houses for hand jennies, 1 of them for 9, the other for 6, which employs a considerable number of hands within these few years.

Trades.—In Monktown are:—House-wrights, 2; cart and plough wrights, 2; weaver, 1; mason, 1; shoemakers, 4; blacksmith, 1; tailors, 2; cooper, 1; excise officer, 1; tobacco manufacturers, 2; public houses, 5; feuars, 16.

In Prestick are:—Weavers, 16; stocking-makers, 2; wrights, 4; mason, 1; blacksmith, 1; public houses, 2; new built houses within these 7 or 8 years, 13.

Farm houses in the whole parish, 37, including 4 gentlemen's seats, who have all farms in their own hands.

Rent.—The valued rent of the whole parish, including Newtown, is £1755 18s Scotch money. The real rent of Monktown and Prestick is supposed to be between £1800 and £2000.

School.—There is an established school for teaching English, writing, arithmetic, and church music. The salary is very small, being only £100 Scots, with a house and garden. 40 scholars usually attend for 3 quarters of the year, the other quarter being diminished by the seed-time and harvest work. The wages for teaching are very small, being 1s 6d a quarter for reading, 2s for writing, 3s for arithmetic and church music.

[NOTE by Dr Mitchell—*Wages, Poor, &c.*—Men servants' wages are from £8 8s to £9, and some £10 sterling yearly: women's wages are from £3 10s to £4 ditto: day-labourers are 1s a day, and in harvest from 14d to 16d, and in winter 10d from Martinmas to New-Year's-day: a mason's wages are from 1s 8d to 2s a day: a wright's wages from 1s 4d to 1s 6d: and a tailor's wages 10d and his victuals a day. Men's shoes from 6s to 6s 6d; women's, 4s 6d and 5s. The poor's funds of the parish amount to £130 sterling, in stock, besides collections. The poor upon the box, at present, are 12, who receive mostly 3s a-month, and more when exigencies require. This, with their own industry, is judged a sufficient supply: none are allowed to beg. The yearly collections at the church amount to about £22 or £23 sterling. The yearly distributions to about the same sum.

Antiquities, &c.—At Low Monktown hill, 3 quarters of a mile from the church, near the farm house, situated upon a rising ground, a large stone is placed. Upon digging for materials for making a road, several urns containing human bones were found. There is no tradition how they were deposited, if it was not in the time of the Romans, when Julius Agricola commanded, who was said to have sent Roman forces into that part of the country, with the view of invading Ireland. About a quarter of a mile E. from the church, upon a rising ground, stands a handsome sepulchral monument erected to the memory of Governor M'Crae, formerly governor of Madras in the East Indies, which is now the burying-place of Mr Dalrymple of Orangefield. Upon the estate of Ladykirk, belonging to Alexander Gardiner, Esq., there are some remains of a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary, called in old writings, Ladykirk in Kyle, situated in the common pasture of the lands of Adamton, being a part of that barony belonging formerly to the family of Blair, who had the right of patronage in the times of Popery. The building was a square, and turrets placed upon each corner; the chapel placed in the middle. One of the turrets still remains, which some time ago was repaired. The whole is enclosed in the garden at present. When digging, many human bones were found, as probably the burying-place was nigh to it. There is a beautiful prospect from it of the country around, and the western sea. Nigh Prestick, upon the toll-road to Ayr, is situated Kincase, or King's Case, a charitable institution in the time of Popery.

New Statistical Account of the United Parishes of Monkton and Prestwick.

[NOTE.—The account, of which the following is to all intents and purposes a copy, was written in 1832 and revised in 1837, the minister of the parish these years being the Rev. Thomas Burns:—]

There is no record or tradition extant of any house or convent in Monkton for the accommodation of the monks. Prestwick church is mentioned in the Paisley chartulary in 1212 as a chapel, and its minister as a chaplain *(capellanus)*. Monkton church was a rectory, and continued to be so down to the Reformation. From the general appearance of the present church of Monkton, and in particular from the existence of a Saxon arch over what was once the principal door, it is supposed to be the original structure; in that case it cannot be less than 700 or 800 years old. The bell bears the popish inscription of *Sancte Cuthberti ora pro nobis*, addressed to the tutelary saint of the church. It is not known when the parishes were united. It appears from the records of the burgh of Prestwick that up to the year 1570 the union had not taken place, as the ministers of both parishes are mentioned; whereas about 1630 mention is made only of one, as being minister of both parishes. The union probably was the result of necessity, viz., the want of adequate endowments.

The parish is sometimes mentioned as the united parish of Monkton, Prestwick, and Crosby. This is a mistake. Crosby never was a separate parish. In the chartulary above referred to, we have mention made of Dundonald, with its two chapels of Riccarton and Crosby. The records of the Presbytery of Ayr bear that in 1651 the estate of Crosby, at the request of its proprietor, was disjoined from the parish of Dundonald, and, for the sake of being nearer to religious ordinances, was joined to Monkton. In 1688, however, it was again wholly reunited to Dundonald. It would appear that, subsequent to this latter date, the laird of Crosby erected the place of worship, the ruins of which still remain, for the accommodation of the neighbouring population, and it continued for some time as a preaching station, and for a while had a minister of its own.

Geology and Mineralogy.—There are two seams of coal in the southern part of Prestwick lands. The upper seam, which is soft, and in some places foul and mixed with pyrites, has been wrought for upwards of thirty years. It is not now wrought, being nearly exhausted. It was within 6 or 7 fathoms of the surface. The under seam, at the depth at from 33 to nearly 40 fathoms, and 4½ feet thick, is a cleaner, harder, and more splinty coal, and has been wrought for more than twenty years. It is now exhausted to the south of Kingcase dike, a dike which divides all the metals on either side of it. This dike is of green whinstone, and crosses the Prestwick lands in a direction from east to west, and at ebb-tide its course can be seen running westward into the sea. It reappears on the opposite shore of the firth, in the island of Arran. In the opposite direction, eastward and inland, this dike has been traced upwards of 40 miles. As yet no coals have been wrought in the parish to the north of this dike. Only one stone quarry has been opened in the parish, viz. upon the Prestwick shore, from which excellent freestone, both white and red, are obtained. It is not wrought at present. The soil of the parish is various.

Immediately along the sea-side, and over a considerable part of Prestwick lands, it is a light sand, so light as scarcely to be adapted for tillage. Around the village of Monkton, and towards the eastern and southern bounds of the united parish, it consists of a fine deep loam, varying from a light and very productive sand to a strong rich earthy clay, all capable of producing every species of crop of the finest quality. To the north and north-east the soil is chiefly a tenacious clay, in some places of excellent quality, and susceptible of great improvement, in others thin and poor, resting upon a cold bottom, and not so improveable. Very little of either is adapted to the different kinds of drill husbandry.

CIVIL HISTORY.

At what period the union of the parishes of Monkton and Prestwick took place is not known; but in all probability it was about the time of the Reformation, or shortly after it. The original parish churches of both parishes are still standing, and up to May, 1837, were used for the purposes of public worship. The inhabitants of Prestwick were entitled to have public worship performed in their own church, by the minister of the parish, every third Sabbath. These churches are both very old. In the records of the burgh of Prestwick, mention is made of a *Justice Aire* being held in the burgh church, so far back as the year 1440. The church of Monkton is thought to be at least as old as that of Prestwick. Tradition says, that it is the same fabric in which Sir William Wallace attended divine service on the occasion of his having the remarkable dream mentioned in the seventh book of Blind Harry's poem.

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners of the parish are: Robert Reid, Esq. of Adamton, who also is patron of the parish; R. A. Oswald, Esq. of Auchencruive; W. G. Campbell, Esq. of Fairfield; A. Murdoch, Esq. of Whiteside and Orangefield; the Duke of Portland; and Lord James Stuart. The lands of Prestwick are divided into thirty-six freedoms, of from fourteen to sixteen acres each in extent, of which from seven to eight acres may be good arable land. The rest was formerly in a state of common, but some years ago was divided and portioned out among the freemen.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers are the records of the kirk-session, and the register of births and baptisms. The earliest entry in the latter is in 1702. The former does not extend so far back, the earlier volumes having been lost. Both are now kept with considerable regularity.

Antiquities.—There are upon the estate of Ladykirk, the property of R. A. Oswald, Esq., of Auchencruive, the remains of a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary, called in old writings, Ladykirk in Kyle. This estate was originally part of the barony of Adamton, and belonged to the family of Blair of Adamton, who were patrons of this chapel in Roman Catholic times. The building formed a square with turrets at each corner, with the chapel in the middle. One of the turrets is all that remains of this ruin.

Between Prestwick and Prestwick Toll, within fifty or sixty yards of the high road, are still to be seen the ruined walls of King Case or King's Case, a charitable institution said to have been endowed by King Robert Bruce. Tradition says that the Bruce, in consequence of great personal efforts in a hard-fought battle, was seized with an eruptive disease of the nature of leprosy; and that upon his recovery from this disease, under the conviction that his cure had been mainly effected by drinking of the water of King Case well, he built this lazar-house for the accommodation and relief of such as might be afflicted with the same disorder.

POPULATION.

According to Dr Webster's report, the population of the united parish, including Newton, amounted in 1755 to 1163; and as the population of Newton in 1779 amounted to between 800 and 900, the separate population of Monkton and Prestwick, in 1755, could not be more than 400. The subsequent increase, to the present amount of 1818, is to be attributed partly to the improvement in the system of agriculture, and the increased expenditure of labour and capital upon the soil; and partly, and perhaps in a greater degree, to the increase of the cotton manufactures, and the influx of Irish weavers employed in them, into the parish.

The number of inhabitants residing in the country is 346; in the three villages of Monkton, Prestwick, and Prestwick Toll, there being 376 in Monkton, 758 in Prestwick, and 327 in Prestwick Toll.

There are only two gentlemen of independent fortune resident in the parish, viz., Mr Reid of Adamton, and Mr Campbell of Fairfield, both heritors in the parish.

There are in the parish ten separate properties of the annual value of £50 and upwards.

Number of families in the parish, 382; chiefly employed in agriculture, 98; trade, manufac-

ture, and handicraft, 209. The number of illegitimate births in the parish during the last three years, as nearly as can be ascertained, was 14.

INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The number of acres, Scotch measure, in the parish, which are either cultivated or occasionally in tillage, is about 1800. The number never cultivated, or remaining constantly waste or in pasture, is 570. There is little of these 570 acres that could, with advantage, be added to the cultivated land of the parish. The only common in the parish is that of Prestwick, which was some years ago divided and appropriated. The number of acres under wood is about 50, mostly planted.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of land in the Monkton half of the parish, including 170 acres of sand-bluffs and links on the sea side, is £2 6s per Scotch acre; and over the united parish £2 17s 3d per acre. The average rent of summer grazing may be stated at £4 10s for an ox or milch cow; and £2 10s for young cattle.

Husbandry.—The state of husbandry in the parish may be said to be in a very advanced stage of improvement. Surface-draining in every alternate furrow, with tiles and stones, has been adopted with the best effects in some of the best land in the parish. The leases are generally of nineteen years.

The farm-steadings are generally good, and upon some of the larger farms have been erected in a very complete style, and at great expense.

Surface-draining, and feeding off the turnip crop on the ground with sheep, appear to be the most important improvements lately introduced into the husbandry of the parish.

Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish has been ascertained with a considerable attention to minuteness and accuracy, and is as follows:—

Produce of grain of all kinds, whether for food of man or domestic animals:

Wheat	£3032	19	0		
Oats	2855	17	0		
Barley	119	0	0		
				£6007	16 0
Potatoes and turnips	£3882	9	0		
Beans	7	6	4	0	
				3888	13 0
Hay (cultivated)				869	17 0
Pasture at £4 10s per cow,				1867	0 0
Total amount of raw produce				£12,573	6 0

The total rental of the parish is £4509.

Besides the mail-coach, six public coaches pass through Monkton and Prestwick every day, three early in the morning from Ayr, two of them to Glasgow, and the other to Edinburgh; and three in the afternoon to Ayr, one of them from Edinburgh, and the other two from Glasgow. Besides these, a regular diligence leaves Kilmarnock for Ayr in the morning, and returns in the afternoon, and another, three times a-week, leaves Irvine for Ayr in the morning, and returns in the afternoon.

Ecclesiastical State.—The union of the two parishes has been completed by the competent legal process before the Court of Teinds, and presbytery of Ayr. These courts, by decreet dated 4th June, 1834, granting authority for the suppression of the two old churches, and for the erection, on an intermediate situation, of one new church, sufficient to accommodate the united parish. A very handsome new church, accordingly, has been built on a commanding situation, adjacent to the Pow-bridge, and calculated to contain 825 sitters, that number being exactly two-thirds of the examinable persons in the parish. It reflects the highest credit on the architect, David Bryce, Esq., Edinburgh, and forms one of the most striking objects in the surrounding landscape, and one of the handsomest churches in the west of Scotland. Including the purchase of ground, gates and surrounding walls, &c., &c., it cost about £2500, and was opened for public worship on the 14th of May, 1837.

The manse was built in 1822. The glebe, including the garden and the ground occupied by the manse and offices, is about 8 Scotch acres in extent, and for the last fifteen or sixteen years rented at from £5 to £5 5s per acre. The stipend is 17 chalders of victual, half meal, half barley, with £8 6s 8d as allowance for communion elements. About 600 persons regularly attend church since the new church was opened. There are about 200 Dissenters, young and old, of all persuasions, in the parish; of these about 60 are Roman Catholics. Divine service is attended with considerable regularity in the parish church. The number of communicants is about 400. The average of collections in the old church was about £35 annually. The average collections in the new church cannot yet be given.

Education.—There is one parochial school in Monkton, attended by between 100 and 130 children. There are also two Sabbath evening schools, attended by from 160 to 180 or 200 children, most of whom do not regularly enjoy any other means of education. The branches of instruction taught in the two day schools are English reading, English grammar, writing, arithmetic, practical mathematics, and, when

pupils offer, the elements of the Latin language. The parochial schoolmaster has the maximum salary, with a house, school-house, and a garden of the statutory extent. The teacher in Prestwick has the use of the town-house of the burgh for a school-house, and the burgh usually make him an annual allowance for rent of dwelling-house. The school fees are, for English reading alone, 2s 6d per quarter; for reading and writing, 3s 6d; and for all the other branches taught 4s. It is believed there are very few, if any, in the parish unable to read, and parents in general are very much alive to the benefits of education. The number of schools is sufficient for the parish.

Poor.—There are from 15 to 20 poor receiving regular parochial aid, to the amount of from 3s to 4s a-month. There are also others receiving occasional aid. The annual amount of contributions for their relief may be stated at about £50 sterling, of which £35 is collected at the church door, £10 is raised by voluntary subscription among the heritors, and the rest is made up by fines, proclamation dues &c., &c. There is still remaining among the poor a considerable reluctance to apply for parish relief, if it can by any means be avoided.

Prison.—There is one prison in the burgh of Prestwick, which is about to be rebuilt. Imprisonment is not frequent. There are four public houses in Prestwick toll, four or five in Prestwick, and four in Monkton—a number much greater than is required, and certainly not favourable to the moral habits of the people.

Fuel.—The fuel used in the parish is universally coal, which is procured, the best of it, from the collieries in the neighbourhood of Kilmarnock, also from Newton, and from the collieries on the water of Ayr, at an expense, including carriage, of between 5s and 5s 9d per single horse cart.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The most striking change in the parish since the date of last Statistical Account is in regard to the agriculture, the mode of farming, and the amount of farm produce raised, and of the rental of the parish. At the date of last Statistical Account there was little or no wheat sown; now the annual value of wheat raised is £3032 19s. In 1791 the amount of oats raised in this parish was 1315 bolls, and of bear or barley, 399 bolls; now the annual value of oats raised is £2855, and of barley £119. In 1791 there were 6 or 7 acres of turnips, and 23 or 24 acres of potatoes; now the annual amount of potatoes and turnips raised is 215 acres, valued at £3092. And finally, in 1791, the rental of the parish was supposed to be between £1800 and £2000; now it is £4509 17s. The chief improvement in the husbandry of the parish is tile-draining in every furrow, or every alternate furrow, which might be applied to a large portion of the parish with the most important results. And the chief error in the system seems to be too frequent white-cropping, as it appears, even under the best management in other respects, to be impairing the productiveness of the soil.

DUNDONALD.

Caledonia.

The parish of Dundonald derived its name from the Gaelic *Dun*, signifying a round hill, and, secondarily, a fort or fortified hill, and *Donald*, the name of a man; and thus does Dundonald mean Donald's fort. Near to the village and church of Dundonald there is a small round hill, on the summit whereof stands the ruins of Dundonald Castle, which belonged to the Stewarts. The name must refer to some more ancient fortlet on this eminence, which had been constructed by some person of the name of Donald. About a mile south of Dundonald there are two hill forts upon two adjoining hills. The manor and parish of Dundonald belonged to Walter, the son of Alan, the first Stewart, who held the whole of the northern half of Kyle, in the beginning of the reign of William the Lion; and it must have been granted to him by David I. or his successor, Malcolm IV. Perhaps the castle of Dundonald was built by the first Walter, who had no appropriate house or castle when he settled in Scotland. It seems to have been the only castle which the Stewarts had in their extensive barony of Kyle Stewart, but several of their vassals had small estates in that district. Robert II., after he succeeded to the throne, lived much in Dundonald Castle, wherein he died in 1390.

The parish of Dundonald was anciently of much greater extent than it has been in more modern times. It comprehended, on the east, the chapelry of Ricardstoun, which was formed into a separate parish long before the Reformation, and it comprehended, on the south, the chapelry of Crossby, which is now included in the united parish of Monkton and Prestwick. The church of Dundonald, with its two chapels of Ricardstoun and Crossby, was granted by the second Walter the Stewart to the Gilbertine convent which he founded at Dalmulin in 1229.

[NOTE.—This grant was confirmed by Alexander II., 28th May, 1230.]

When this convent was given up, in 1238, Walter granted the church of Dundonald, with its two chapels of Ricardstoun and Crossby, to the monks of Paisley.

[NOTE by Chalmers.—This was confirmed by his son and successor, Alexander the Stewart. It was also confirmed to the monks of Paisley by William, the Bishop of Glasgow, 11th Sept., 1239, when he stipulated for the continuance of the vicarage of 28 marks yearly, which had been established in the church of Dundonald, according to his taxation. The monks of Paisley, to make surety double sure, obtained the confirmation of several Popes.]

The chapel of Ricardstoun was established as a separate parish church, which belonged to the monastery of Paisley till the Reformation, as did also the church of Dundonald, with its remaining chapel of Crossby. The church of Dundonald was served by a vicar, who had a fixed stipend from the monks, out of the tithes of the parish and some other profits.

[NOTE by Chalmers.—There belonged to the vicarage of Dundonald glebe lands, in various places, to the extent of ten marks, seven shillings and four pence of the old valuation. All these were acquired about the epoch of the Reformation, which was equally the epoch of dilapidation, by Cunningham of Caprington. There belonged to the church of Dundonald other church lands, which also passed into lay hands after the Reformation.

In Bagimont's Roll, the vicarage of Dundonald was taxed £5 6s 8d, being a tenth of its estimated value. At the epoch of the Reformation the vicarage of Dundonald was held by Mr Hew Montgomery, to whom it yielded £60 yearly, besides 40 marks more, which were paid to two curates who did the duty. The rectorial revenues of the church of Dundonald were reported, in 1562, as producing to the monastery of Paisley £140, and 2 chalders and 8 bolls of bear yearly. In 1587 the patronage of this parish passed, with the lordship of Paisley, from the Earl of Abercorn to Sir William Cochran of Cowdon, who some years before acquired from Wallace of Dundonald the estate of Dundonald, with its ancient castle.

[NOTE by Chalmers.—On the 5th March, 1638, Mr William Cochran, the son of Alexander Cochran of Cochran, obtained a charter from Charles I. of the 20 pound lands of Dundonald, and other lands, and this charter contained a *novodamus*, erecting the Kirktown of Dundonald into a free burgh of barony.]

Sir William was created, in December, 1647, Lord Cochran of Dundonald; and in May, 1669, he was created Earl of Dundonald and Lord Cochran of Paisley. In the beginning of the eighteenth century the patronage of Dundonald church passed, with the estate of Dundonald, to the Earl of Eglinton; and they still belong to that family, and are at present held by Lady Mary Montgomery. When the transfer was made the Earl of Dundonald retained the old castle and the small hill whereon it stands, with five roods of land adjoining, as the place whence he derived his title. This reservation still belongs to the family of Dundonald, and is the only property which they possess in the parish. Within the castle of Dundonald there was anciently founded a chapel, which was dedicated to St Ninian, and an endowment was made for the support of a chaplain to perform divine service in it. The patronage of this chaplainry probably belonged to the Prince and Stewart of Scotland; but during the reigns of James IV. and James V., and till the Reformation, the patronage was exercised by the Crown, there being in these periods no prince who was of full age.

Statistical Account of Scotland. By the Rev. Mr Robert Duncan.

[NOTE.—Mr Duncan's contribution was published in 1793, in the seventh volume of The Statistical Account. In dealing with the "Name and Situation," he refers to the junction at the southern end of the parish, of "the Rumbling and Pow-burns as a place," he says, "which, on account of its quick sands, is very dangerous to travellers." In a note Mr Duncan mentions that "as some persons have been buried alive at this spot, it is an important caution not to attempt passing it at high water, and at other times to keep as close as possible to the low water mark."]

Soil and Appearance.—The parish of Dundonald presents as great variety in point of soil and external appearance as is to be met with in any part of the kingdom. The Claven hills and Shoualton moss, which lies immediately under them to the north, divide it almost into two equal parts; upper and lower. The former being inland, is, in general, of a fertile clay, though some farms are more inclined to a loamy, and two or three to a light texture. This part of the parish consists of gentle eminences, adorned with clumps and belts of planting. The lower

part, between the hills and the sea, is very flat. Some barren sandy hillocks are to be seen in different places by the shore. Cutting the bent, which grows upon them, no doubt adds to their barrenness, and renders them a better sport to the winds. However, there is a great extent of arable, and especially of good pasture, ground near the sea, and particularly about the Troone. Half a mile inward, and along the skirts of the hills, is a mixed soil of excellent quality, very proper for culture, and which, after regular tillage, runs immediately into rich grass.

The Claven hills consist of various heights, and extend about three miles from south-east to north-west, and a mile and an half from north-east to south-west. Many of these heights are arable, all of them afford pasture, and some of them have their shelving sides ornamented with oak, ash, birch, alder, hazle, &c. None of them are so elevated as to require critical measurement, or comparison with many hills in the county of Ayr, yet they have long been distinguished by particular names. The two highest are stiled the Lamont and Warley hills. Perhaps the latter, which overtops the rest, is a corruption for warlike; the lines of two encampments being still distinct upon it. These are usually designed Roman encampments, though their form appears sufficiently to confute that designation. The largest contains, within a circular embankment of loose stones and earth, ten acres of ground; and there is an inner circle of the same kind, and from the same center, which incloses one of these acres. The other encampment is about two hundred yards distant. No artificial work has ever been raised upon its north-east quarter; the steepness of the declivity being a sufficient defence. But, on the south and west, the circular embankment is strong, and within is a beautiful platform not exceeding an acre in extent. Historians seem to agree that the Norwegians, who afterwards were defeated at Largs, landed near to Ayr; and it is not improbable that these heights were immediately occupied and in this manner fortified by them. No place could be more proper for their purpose, both on account of the extensive prospect, and of its great security before the invention of fire arms. A person standing within either of these encampments, is entertained with a delightful prospect to the south of the lands lying upon Ayr and Doon rivers; and the prospect upon this quarter is terminated by the high hills of Carrick and Galloway. Turning to the north-east, Cunningham and part of Kyle exhibit a grand and rich amphitheatre, at least 14 miles in diameter. In a clear day, the eye is lost among hills stretching far beyond Ben Lomond. To the west, the spectator has a noble view of the frith of Clyde, of Bute, Cumbraes, Cowal, the Paps of Jura, Arran, Plada, Sanda, the point of Cantyre, and different parts of the kingdom of Ireland appearing between Kintyre and Ailsa. The singular form of this last island, rising like a mighty pyramid from the ocean, is beautifully contrasted by the similar appearance of London hill, rising on the opposite side from the land. No wonder that the inhabitants of the bleak mountains of Scandinavia were captivated with the prospect, and excited to contend vigorously for the possession of this part of Scotland.

Population.—In 1755 the number of souls was rated at 983. In 1792 the total is 1317—of these, males, 658; females, 659. Annual average of births during 28 years, 35; annual average of marriages, 16; annual average of burials, 17.

Rent.—Valued rent £6367 17s 5d Scots. Real rent about £6100 sterling.

Church, School, and Poor.—To the minister's stipend, which formerly was 100 bolls 14 pecks of meal, 32 bolls 11 pecks of bear, Ayrshire measure, and 20 merks Scots; the Lords Commissioners of teinds have, this year, granted an augmentation of £25 3s 2½d sterling, and £5 sterling to defray the expence of communion elements. The manse was rebuilt in 1784, upon a very neat plan, and was the first in this part of the country which had slated offices. The glebe is 4 acres. No grass is allowed for horse or cows. The school-master's salary is 100 merks Scots. The average of scholars, 34. The inhabitants are obliged to keep two private schools, in two corners of the parish, which are at too great a distance from the kirk town, for their young children. The school-master has a dwelling-house and school-house but no garden.

The funds for the poor are, the interest of £144 stock in the bank of Ayr, the monies received at private baptisms and for mortcloths, and the weekly collections: The average of the provision for the poor for nine years past is £36. Seven persons receive, at present, a weekly pension from 1s to 1s 6d; and eleven receive occasional supply. None are allowed to beg. Near to the village of Dundonald is the castle already mentioned, which gives name to the earldom in the family of Cochrane. The rising ground on which the castle stands, with 5 roods of land adjoining, is all the property in this parish which now pertains to that family. No authentic record can be produced at what

time this castle was built, or when it was spoiled of its roof, and rendered desolate. A large pile still remains: The walls are very thick, and built of whinstone, which is in abundance near it. The corners are of a free-stone, superior in quality to any now found in the parish. The Stuart arms are engrossed in different parts of the building, and the whole has much the form of those castles which were raised in many places of Britain during the 12th and 13th centuries. Among the hills is still discernable the vestige of another castle, called Kemplaw, and which is said to have been of high antiquity.

Opposite to the village and castle is a very beautiful bank of wood, upwards, in most places, of 100 feet in height, and extending near a mile to the northwest. In a grand curvature of this bank, and on a gentle eminence, stands the house of Auchans, for a long period the residence of the Wallaces of Dundonald. About 1640, this estate came into the possession of Sir William Cochrane of Lowdon, knight; who was afterwards created Earl of Dundonald. Since the beginning of this century, the estate has been the property of the Earl of Eglintoune, who, with it, acquired the patronage of the parish. At the Auchans, are the remains of a small orchard which was once in high reputation. The pear, known in Scotland by the name of Auchans, derived that name from this place. The tree came originally from France, was planted in this orchard, grew to a great height, and was not long ago blown down by a storm. Some large trees, particularly planes and ash, may be seen in different parts of the parish, especially at the Auchans.

Heritors.—The heritors of the parish are in number 16, and, excepting two of them who have only 39 acres, reside either within the bounds of the parish, or in its vicinity. The houses of Fullerton, Fairlie, Hillhouse, and Newfield are modern buildings, very commodious and elegant in their respective forms. To Mr Fairlie of Fairlie, the country is indebted for a considerable share of its improvement in agriculture. Of this not only his own estate in this parish, but the numerous estates belonging to the Earl of Eglintoune, in the counties of Ayr, Lanerk, and Renfrew, all under his management, are a sufficient demonstration. Persevering with uncommon firmness in combating the prejudices of old tenants, dividing the lands and making restrictions suitable to the soil and situation, he has rendered the farmers, in general, more wealthy and respectable, and the lands much more valuable. To Mr M'Kerrel of Hillhouse, the country is under great obligations in another line. He was the first to introduce the silk manufactory into Paisley, and his sons still carry it on to a considerable extent. Colonel Fullerton of Fullerton, and Major Crawfurd of Newfield particularly distinguished themselves in the East Indies.

Fuel.—This parish is well situated for fuel. Shoualton moss, which is of an irregular figure, near 4 miles in circumference, is an inexhaustible fund for peat. But there is little demand for peat owing to the abundance of coal. At Fairlie a seeing coal has been wrought for many years for the benefit of the country, and, for some seasons past, a good blind coal, which is exported at Irvine for the Irish market. On account of this coal work, a village, named Rumford, has of late years started up close by Fairlie bridge. It contains at present 74 inhabitants. At Shoualton a seeing coal is wrought both for the use of the people in the town and neighbourhood of Irvine, and for exportation. The load of coals has lately been raised, and is now sold at the former of these works at 8d and at the later 10d. These coallieries employ many sailors and carters in Irvine, and during the summer and winter months, a number of tenants, who by these means, give constant work to their horses.

Miscellaneous Observations.—A cotton work has lately been erected in the village of Dundonald, which employs 30 persons, old and young. The carding machines are turned by a horse. Excepting 6 weavers, 3 taylors, 4 shoemakers, 2 masons, 4 joiners, and 3 smiths, the rest of the inhabitants, able for work, are employed in agriculture. Land is let from 15 to 30 shillings per acre, according to its quality. Most of the farms are in 3, some in 4, breaks. Oats and bear are the principal articles of culture. There are 3 mills upon this side of Irvine river. One of them for oats; another for oats and lint; and the third, lately built upon the land of Shoualton, at considerable expence and with great improvements, for wheat, oats, and barley. No lime has ever been discovered in this parish. The farmers in the lower part of it have for many years imported lime-stone from Ireland. Considering the greater quantity of calcareous earth in the Irish lime, they are at less expence for this kind of manure than to cart it from the neighbouring parishes of Symington and Riccartoun. They have likewise the advantage of the sea-wrack. Notwithstanding the hills and moss already mentioned, the parish produces more than double the quantity of grain necessary for

its own consumpt. The attention of the farmers has, of late years, been turned to the rearing of young cattle, both horses and cows, and to the making of sweet-milk cheese. Both must in a short time be highly beneficial to the country; much money having long been drained out of it, to England for cheese, and to Ireland for horses. In summer 1791, there were in the parish 235 draught horses, 120 young ditto, 14 bulls, 597 milch cows, 782 young ditto, bulls and stots; 433 black cattle feeding for market; 1090 sheep, viz. 603 of the small kind and black faced, 338 of a mixed breed between the English and Scotch, white faced; a Turkish ram brought by Colonel Fullerton from Constantinople in 1790, and 48 lambs the offspring of this foreigner, and ewes of the mixed breed.

There are 4 licenced public houses in the parish; but the inhabitants are, in general, very sober and industrious. Their mode of living is much improved within these 20 years. Their way of living and their industry have a mutual influence. No customs or amusements are peculiar to them. Great weddings are fast going into disuse. Country burials are not well regulated. The company are invited at 11 o'clock forenoon, but they are, probably, not all arrived at 2. Till of late a pipe and tobacco were provided for every one of the company, but this custom is entirely laid aside. An ancient practice still continues in this parish and neighbourhood of kindling a large fire, or tawnle as it is usually termed, of wood, upon some eminence, and making merry around it, upon the eve of the Wednesday of Marymass fair in Irvine. As most fair days in this country were formerly Popish holy days, and their eves were usually spent in religious ceremonies and in diversions, it has been supposed, that tawnles were first lighted up by our catholic fathers, though some derive their origin from the druidical times.

The Troone, which might be made an excellent harbour, is the west point of Dundonald parish. In its natural condition, it affords safe anchoring ground from every quarter but the north-west. It is an arm of rock running near a mile into the sea, and bending from south to north, broad and covered with rich pasture towards the land, and narrowing into a barren point, part of which is for a little distance concealed even at low water. Within the point at half a cable's length from the rock, the mariner may trust to have three fathoms water at half-flood. The merchants of Glasgow, sensible of the advantages of this natural harbour, near a century ago made offer to the proprietor of feuing the lands adjoining to it. But their offer was rejected, for a reason, as it is reported, which however ridiculous it may now appear, would be accounted very cogent in those days; lest a rise should be occasioned in the price of butter and eggs. The place where Port-Glasgow now stands, was deemed by the merchants the next station most eligible for their trade. The Lady-Isle, which lies in the mouth of Ayr Bay, is a pendicle to this parish; and, as it affords security to vessels upon this flat and dangerous coast, the Magistrates of Glasgow have erected two pillars to direct them. Upon the Troone stands an elegant octogonal temple, built by the late Mr Fullerton, who was a gentleman of classic taste. This temple commands an extensive prospect, and is, *Baccho laetitiae datori, amicis et otio sacrum.* The Troone is an excellent situation for sea bathing, and is much resorted to by the inhabitants of Kilmarnock, and of other inland parts. People from Elgin carry on fishing of salmon at the Troone, and the Black-rock which is near a mile to the southward. In dry summers they are most successful, as floods give the salmon an opportunity of ascending the neighbouring rivers. Salmon, when most abundant, are sold at 4d. per pound. There are some lobsters and crabs among the rocks. Some tons of kelp are made, every third or fourth year, from the sea weed which grows upon the rocks. Colonel Fullerton has lately built a house at the Troone, for drying the sea-weed thrown in by the surf, and for making kelp from it. But it is very uncertain whether a manufacture of this nature will yield a profit sufficient to recompense the loss of manure. The Colonel has two extensive rabbit warrens near the shore; both of them very thriving. While the Isle of Man remained a distinct sovereignty, the Troone was found to be a very convenient station for vessels employed in contraband trade. The British government gave the first check to smuggling upon this coast, by purchasing the regal power of that petty state. Happily the commutation act has nearly annihilated that hostile traffic. It must be acknowledged that lessening some duties to a certain degree would not injure the revenue; and yet more effectually cut up this business, than a fleet of cutters, or an army of custom and excise officers. Uncontrovertible evidence must convince every attentive man living upon the coast of Ayrshire, of the great wisdom of the apostle, in joining those two precepts in one sentence, Fear God, Honour the King. Smuggling, in its very nature, tends to weaken in the

dealer that sense which he has of lawful authority, to disturb his peace, to injure his health, to corrupt his manners. Must it not be regretted, that men of amiable dispositions should be seduced by the temptations of this trade. Were profit and loss upon it clearly calculated, the balance would be much against the profit side, putting health and peace and character out of the question.

(New Statistical Account.)

[NOTE.—The account of Dundonald is that of the Rev. Alexander Willison, the minister of the parish, and was drawn up by him in the year 1841. At that time the minister of Troon was the Rev. James Fleming; and of Fullarton, the Rev. David Wilson.

Mr Willison thinks that the Clavin hills owe their name to the Celtic "Clai bheinn," signifying broadswords, which, when laid in a particular form, give a good idea of their appearance. "From the top of these eminences there is a most delightful prospect, said to comprise parts of fourteen different counties; and it is questionable if, from an equal elevation, so fine a natural panorama, both for richness and extent, is anywhere to be met with in the lowlands of Scotland."]

Climate.—There is nothing very remarkable or peculiar in this respect, beyond what is characteristic of the district in which the parish is situate. We are not quite sure that it will altogether justify the wit of the English gentleman, who, having procured a few Ayrshire cows, declared "that he was obliged to have water poured over them daily to preserve their health," but it certainly is very moist. As a compensation, however, it has the advantage of being proportionably mild, so that snow seldom lies for any length of time; and upon the whole it may be considered as favourable to health and longevity.

[NOTE.—As a whole the parish belongs to the coal formation. A quarry at Craiksland yields a very fine and durable stone, mostly imported to Ireland for purposes of ornamental architecture. Hone stone is found on Curreath, as well as a small seam of black chalk. The strata in many places are very much deranged by greenstone dykes, of which substance the Clavin hills are composed, being "but a greenstone dike on a large scale forced by old Titan bolt up through the surrounding beds." Near Troon there is a small bed of fire clay. On the higher land the soil is chiefly clayey; on the low flat land, mainly mossy.]

Zoology. — In addition to the domestic animals, which are in no respect different from those in the neighbourhood, the parish abounds in all sorts of game, such as hares, partridges, snipe, black-cock, and pheasants. Woodcock also are in considerable numbers, frequently making their appearance in their regular seasons. As for rabbits, owing chiefly to a large warren along the shore, belonging to the Duke of Portland, which is but imperfectly enclosed, they were, till within a year or two, as locusts in the district, and devoured every green thing. So numerous were they from the sandy nature of the soil, and the strict protection which they enjoyed, that the proprietors were obliged, for their own interest, to proceed against them with a war of extermination. They are still very numerous notwithstanding in some parts of the parish, and to many a subject of grievous complaint. A few years ago there was a well-stocked deer-park on the estate of Auchans, but the deer have all been removed to Eglinton. At the mouth of the water of Irvine, and along the sea coast at Troon, salmon are regularly caught, but not in such numbers as to render the fisheries of very great importance. Indeed there are no fisheries of any kind worthy of attention. Oyster scalps, however, might in some places be cultivated with advantage, and we wonder why this has not been attended to.

[NOTE.—The Zoology further includes the otter, the seal, the heron, the solan goose or gannet, the sheldrake, the great northern diver, the herring gull, the common wild duck, and the common adder. A very complete zoological and botanical list is furnished by the Rev. David Landsborough, minister of Stevenston, so well known for his high attainments in this department of science.

After dealing with the Civil History of the Parish, and with the heritors, the account proceeds:—

Parochial Registers.—These, as in most parishes in Scotland, from the accidents of time, but more especially from the slovenly way in which they have been originally kept, are in a very imperfect state. The oldest volume containing the records of session, and bearing date 1602, is tolerably entire; nay, strange to say, much more so than any of the succeeding ones. It extends over a period of forty years, comprising a silent interval of sixteen years, and contains a great deal of parochial information that is curious and interesting. Among other entries of this kind, are minutes of the trial of Patrick Lowrie,

Warlock, and Catherine M'Tier, demit of witchcraft. These seem to have been cases of peculiar interest and considerable judicial difficulty, from the minute detail of evidence adduced, and the length of time they appear to have been under trial. The attention of the session was more or less occupied by them for nearly five years, —a term which now-a-days would do no small honour to a chancery law suit. Notwithstanding all this trouble however, matters seem to have been left just where they began; no decision being recorded, probably from the parties leaving the parish, as we see, from one part of the evidence, they threatened to do. For the curious in such matters, we shall subjoin one or two extracts, on different subjects, from this interesting volume.

"Session haldin 8th November, 1629. The quhilk day the minister publicklie out of the pulpit, by the authoritie of the presbytery, did inhibit and discharge all sorte of charming, and resorting to charmers, consulting with wizards, sorcerers, and uthers of that sorte, certifeing all and sundrie who did so in time cuming, they shall be challengit criminallie yrfore and followit, and persewit with death, as for the crimes of witch craft.

"Session haldin 17th March, 1605. John Fergushill, younger in Haly, deferit ane slanderous taill spoken to him by Agness Lyonn, spous to Peter Renkin in Parkheid; she aledgand upon George Lachland her author, as she said George Lachland aledgit Symon Muir his author, "That the late minister of Kilwinning now departit yis life was eardit (buried,) with his mouth doun, and that he confessit yat ye minister of Ayr and Irvine, and he, had ye wyt of all ye ill wedder ye year.

"Session haldin 23rd March, 1602. The quhilk day Symon Wallace in Creux requyrit to schaw ye manner of yat uproir and tumult maid in ye kirkyard immediatelie eftir ye sermon on Sonday ye 8th of Apryle last was, be him and his adherentis, and John Dickie in Curraith and his adherentis. Ye said Symon declarit in manner following; That he persaiving ye said John Dickie to come by his accustomed manner with convocation of his friends yat day to ye kirk, and that the said John Dickie had offendit him, he tuik ye sam as done in contempt of him, quarupon quhen he saw ye said John Dickie, he bad him ga out of ye kirkyard, and yat yrupon ye said John Dickie and his adherentes drew swordes to ye said Symon, quairupon yai cutit his ganging staf whilk onlie he had in his han and na ither armour. Ye session continuit yes matters to foryer tryel."

The volume from which these extracts are taken contains a record of a different, and to a Scotchman at large, of a more interesting kind, namely, the Solemn League and Covenant, to which are attached no fewer than 222 signatures. But of these, which is a lamentable proof of the low state of education at the time, 179 are subscribed by proxy, because it is stated "they could not wryt themselfs." It appears, however, that the eyes of the people were beginning to open to this defect, as we find them making arrangements two years afterwards, in 1640, for forming what may be considered the first parish school. The articles agreed on at a public meeting held for the purpose, and to be subscribed by the teacher on admission to office, are certainly curious enough. The luckless man of letters was to be anything but a free agent; for there was scarcely a part of his duty, even the most trifling, which was not laid down to him by rule, and according to which he was not commanded to walk on pain of deposition. The hours of teaching and recreation, the tasks for the children, the deportment to be borne towards them, the kinds of punishment, even to the particular sort of birch to be used, with the exact parts of the body to which it was to be applied, are all made the subject of minute description and legal enactment. What would a teacher now-a-days think, if he were gravely called upon to subscribe such an article as the following? "That he shall attend at all hours when the children are in school, and not suffer himself to be withdrawn by drinking, playing, or any other avocation." And more especially, when he takes a glance at No. 4, and sees that these hours in the winter months are from sunrise to sunset, and in summer from seven o'clock morning till six evening, without even the benefit of a Saturday's recreation. And on the very Sabbath itself, he was to be always present in church with his little flock around him, to see, as the record bears, that they conducted themselves with propriety, and gave due attention to the ordinances of religion, of which examination on the following day was strictly to be made.

The minutes of session, after the conclusion of this volume, till within the last few years, have been very carelessly and imperfectly kept. The next entry after 1643 is in 1702, the commencement of another volume. And for more than half a century after this date, there are scarcely ten consecutive years of their transactions recorded. The register of baptisms, extending to four volumes, begins in 1673; that of deaths in one volume, in 1763; and that

of marriages also in one volume, in 1823. The first of these is, in comparison, tolerably correct. But the other two are very incorrect, and hopelessly so, until more stringent measures are taken to compel the people generally to attend to such matters.

Antiquities.—In this department of inquiry, the Castle of Dundonald claims the first place. The date of the edifice is unknown; but the probability is, from the style of the building and other circumstances, that it is indebted for its origin to the craftsmen of the twelfth and thirteenth century. As a ruin it is still comparatively entire, and would have been much more so, if it had had only the Goth Time to struggle against; but the hand of man has also been sorely against it for many generations. According to a tradition, which the appearance of the building seems to confirm, an entire storey was removed to build the house of Auchans, which is itself nearly a ruin: from time to time almost every available piece of freestone has been carried off. Though these systematic depredations are now discontinued, the hand of mischief is still occasionally at work. So that if it be true, as we have heard on good authority, that the family of Dundonald hold the adjoining piece of land in grant from the heirs of Eglinton, on condition of keeping the ruin from further decay, we must say that the terms of the tenure are not very strictly complied with. The building, two entire storeys of which still hang together, roofed in by a rude arch of ruble work, is in the form of an oblong square, and entirely without ornament. It is chiefly built of greenstone from the adjoining rock, with corners and port-holes, &c., of freestone, not superior, as when the former Statistical Account was written, to any found in the parish. But, as it is only of late years that the freestone quarries in the parish have been wrought, it must have been brought from a considerable distance. The length of the building without the walls is 113 feet. The breadth 40 feet. At the south end is the keep or prison, consisting of two or three miserable arched cells nearly filled up with rubbish, which apparently form a distinct compartment, but are in reality a part of the original building. On the western wall, the arms of the Stewarts, with those of some of the more powerful barons, are carved in *alto relievo*, but are so obliterated by time as to be almost undistinguishable. Parts of the wall, both of the outer and inner courts, are still standing, and appearances of a mound or fortification running round the whole, and of a moat at the bottom of the hill, are distinctly to be traced. Previous to the Reformation, the castle contained a chapel dedicated to St Ninian, with an endowment annexed, the patronage being vested in the prince; but no remains of it are now to be discovered. We shall leave these dry bones of once proud and living architecture, with the quotation of a popular rhyme regarding them, which lays claim to a high antiquity. The verse is certainly descriptive enough of the castle as it stands; but if it is as ancient as is supposed, it must have reference to a still older fortlet, which is generally believed to have occupied the same site.

"There is a castle in the wast,
They ca' it Donald's din;
There's no a nail in it ava,
Nor yet a timmer pin!"

In 1240, the family of Fullarton erected and endowed a convent of Carmelites on the site now occupied by the town of Fullarton. The convent, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, continued to flourish till the time of the Reformation. (See Aiton's Survey.) The last prior, Robert Burn, foreseeing the approaching storm, alienated the lands, which went under the name of Friar's Croft, to Fullarton of Dreghorn. No traces of the edifice or of the ancient mansion-house of its founders, which stood close by, are now to be found. And the only circumstance which gives a decided locality to the building, which at one time was disputed, was, that when the grounds some years ago were feued out for building, the foundation of the convent walls was discovered on digging, about fifty yards west from the old place of Fullarton. For a more particular detail, see Robertson's Ayrshire Families.

Tradition says that a chapel once existed at a place called Chapelhill, close by the mansion-house of Hillhouse. The ground, which is now covered with wood, has still traces of such an erection In the garden wall, which was built nearly a century ago, the font-stone is still pointed out. Such a tradition, even without any visible evidence, may also be viewed as a certainty, from the history of the age to which it refers; when every baron of any wealth or influence was a kirk-builder on his own account, and prided himself in having his private chapel. And the M'Kerrells were influential enough at that time to lay claim to such a piece of religious state.

On the line of railroad passing through the farm of Barassie, a part of the same property, an earthern urn was found in 1839. It was filled with the usual complement of calcined bones, and from the coarseness of the material,

and rudeness of the workmanship, it seems rather to have been of British than Roman manufacture. It was unfortunately broken in the course of extraction, and the fragments have found their way into the private museum of Colonel Blair of Blair.

At Kemplaw, on the estate of Lady Montgomerie, are the ruins of a vitrified fort. It stands on a projecting eminence formed by two ravines; but is in such a complete state of dilapidation, that the form of the edifice is entirely effaced. A few weeks ago, a piece of iron was discovered embedded in a block of vitrified stone. It is about four inches in length, bent at one end, and exactly in the form of an earring-drop. The position in which it was found would indicate accident rather than design; but to what purpose, either of ornament or utility, it could originally have been applied, we cannot even conjecture. We believe it is intended to send it to the Mechanics' Museum at Ayr.

Close by the mansion-house of Newfield, are what are said to be the remains of a Roman bath or reservoir. As the place is flooded with water, except during a very dry season, we have not been able to inspect it personally, and therefore cannot indulge the antiquarian with a description of its form.

The only other relics of antiquity worthy of notice are two old encampments on the heights above the farm of Harpercroft. "The largest of these," in the words of the former Statistical Account, "contains within a circular embankment of loose stones and earth, ten acres of ground, and there is an inner circle of the same kind, and from the same centre, which encloses one of these acres. The other encampment is about 200 yards distant. No artificial work has been raised on its north-east quarter, the steepness of the declivity being a sufficient defence. But on the south and west, the circular embankment is strong, and within is a platform not exceeding an acre in extent" The construction of these works is popularly ascribed to the Romans, though the absence of the ditch or fosse may be considered by antiquarians as conclusive against this opinion, and it is believed that all undoubted remains of Roman encampments are of a rectangular form, as might be expected from the minute description given by Polybius, Lib. i. On suggesting, however, to a gentleman connected with the parish, of long military experience and considerable antiquarian research, the possibility that the prevailing opinion might be correct, he said, "That the same thought had often occurred to himself—that he considered the Romans too wise a people to adhere with mathematical strictness to any one form of encampment, and that this would naturally vary according to the nature of the ground on which it was raised." This is the opinion of an intelligent soldier, who knows what fighting means; and we think it has at least common sense to support it. But whether they are Roman or Scandinavian, we pretend not to decide. The only way to settle the question satisfactorily, would be to send the ploughshare through them in search of old coins, or fragments of armour; a mode of investigation perhaps not quite to the taste of the genuine antiquarian; but one which time may nevertheless ere long bring to pass.

[NOTE.—Besides the churches the only modern building of note is the house at Auchans, bearing date 1644, "of a very irregular and grotesque appearance," in a condition of "hopeless disrepair," occupied in compartments by cottars. The adjoining orchard was the home of the Auchans pear in Scotland. The tree originally came from France.

The population was—1755, 983; 1791, 1317; 1801, 1240; 1811, 1610; 1821, 2482; 1831, 5579; 1841, 6691. These 6691 were divided thus:—Town of Fullarton, 2813; Troon, 1409; Dundonald, 345; Old Rome, 256; Shewalton, 219; Loans, 205; country, including hamlets, 1444. The increase was chiefly due to the growth of Troon.

Fullarton was in a condition of depression, and there was much destitution both among miners and weavers. "As a whole the people are orderly, intelligent, comfortable as to food and raiment, and contented with their condition, except when some wiser heads would persuade them to the contrary; 'but even that, they dinna mind it lang.'"

In agriculture, Ayrshire is "cows and dairy produce" all over; and the parish, in this respect, "may be considered as a thrifty cadet of the house of Dunlop." The system of tillage was not by any means uniform. The growing of wheat had been greatly given up, owing to a succession of wet seasons. The valued rent was £6411 10s 9d Scots, the real rent about £12,200. Highest rent of land, £4 an acre. Produce of a cow estimated at £5 10s. The only notable defect in farm steadings was a want of neatness in arrangement.

"But it is not easy to change old tastes, as is well illustrated by the shrewd reply of a farmer of the old school, who lived before the invention of bone dust. On being requested by his factor to have his dunghill removed a

little farther from his door-step, he answered, 'Na, na, sir, when a farmer thinks shame o' his midden, and a beggar o' his meal-pock, it's time they were quitting the trade.'"

One farm was rented at £1000; but farms generally were small, ranging from £100 to £200 a year; tenants thriving; common lease, 19 years. In one or two cases only the rents were paid by the fiars.

The Duke of Portland in 1826 introduced tile-draining with beneficial results. Other proprietors gave encouragement to improvement, "and if they continue to proceed as they are doing, the time is not distant when the whole parish will be as dry as a garden. There is one singular fact," adds Mr Willison, "well ascertained, in regard to tile draining, that it is unfavourable to the growth of beans." Along the shore the sandy hillocks were being levelled, and an attempt was being made to reclaim the Shewalton Moss.

The proximity of the parish to Kilmarnock, Irvine, and Ayr obviated the necessity for any local market town. The roads in all directions were good. "The only thing the mounted traveller has reason to complain of is the abundance of tolls; but as the toll seems to be indigenous to the county, let us pay and pass on, for in this case we fear there is very little hope of writing them down." A bridge across the Irvine, near Dreghorn, was much needed.

The only post-office in the parish was that of Troon.]

Railroads.—Of these there are two in the parish. The older, which is more properly a tram-road, being formed of flat rails with flanges, was constructed by the Duke of Portland in 1810, for conveying coal from Kilmarnock to Troon. The principle is bad, and it is standing in need of constant repair; yet, from the quantity of coal conveyed, it still continues, we believe, a very profitable speculation. The waggons are drawn by horses, and carriages for passengers pass two or three times a day; but more frequently during the summer months. The other, the Glasgow and Ayr line, passes through the parish along the sea coast for nearly eight miles. The part from Ayr to Irvine was opened in the summer of 1839. The whole line was opened in 1840. Since this date, the whole system of travelling has been completely revolutionised, as if by magic, and when one hears of the paucity of travellers a few years ago, whichwas insufficient to support a rustic one-horse conveyance betwixt Irvine and Ayr thrice a-week, and compares it with the numbers who are flocking to and fro at all hours of the day, he is almost led to wonder what moving spirit can have come over the people, and what they can have found to do. A very neat and commodious station-house has been erected a mile from Troon, the nearest point of the line; but a branch is now in progress to connect it with the harbour. Another station-house has been built at Fullarton, on a more extensive scale, principally for the accommodation of the Irvine passengers.

[NOTE.—The harbours of the parish are Irvine and Troon. At Irvine the depth of water was from 10 to 12 feet. Number of vessels belonging to the port, upwards of 30, from 50 to 100 tons register each. Exports of coal, 43,693 tons. Troon harbour was begun in 1808; cost of construction, about £100,000; depth of water, 15 to 16ft. at ebb tide; about 3000 tons of timber imported annually; exports of coal, year 1839, 130,500 tons; vessels belonging to the port, 15. During a disastrous gale in 1838, twenty-two vessels were driven from their moorings, a few of them totally wrecked.

Parish Church built in 1803—630 sittings; Troon Church 1837, Fullarton Church 1838—each, 900 sittings. Stipend at Troon, £150; at Fullarton, £88 6s 8d. Seats in Parish Church of Dundonald rent free. In Troon, 120 free, the rest rented from 3s to 7s each. In Fullarton, 100 free; the average seat rent 2s 6d. Dundonald Manse built in 1784; glebe 4½ acres. Stipend in 1824, 17 chalders half meal, half barley, and £10 for Communion elements. Number of dissenters 1886, chiefly Burghers, Relief, Baptists, and Roman Catholics. In 1840 the Associate Synod erected a place of worship in Troon, the pastor being the only dissenting clergyman in the parish.

There were eight schools in the parish—school attendance about 700. A parochial library was established in Dundonald in 1836, and contained about 150 volumes. The parish schoolmaster had a good house and garden and £28 18s 9d of salary.

The poor on the roll numbered 94; average weekly allowance, 1s 4½d, raised by church collections and voluntary assessment of heritors.]

What may be the reason, we know not, but sorry we are to say, that the good old spirit of Scottish independence which once spurned the kirk-box, as almost worse than starvation, is fast dying away, and that few indeed now think it any degradation to have their wants so sup-

plied. This is surely a symptom of change not for the better, and as it is, from accounts, very generally manifested, we trust it will meet with due consideration from those whose special business it is to provide and legislate for the poor.

Inns.—The number of these would seem to a stranger rather like a slur on the morality of the inhabitants, being not less than 50. But let it be considered that all of them, with the exception of seven, are located in the two seaport towns, and are principally frequented by persons who do not belong to the parish. This, however, to a philanthropist is a poor consolation, and in any case it is to be regretted that such things should be. The grand Turk has levelled the haunts of the opium-eater; the heathens of China have obstinately waged war against its importation; and surely a government calling itself Christian ought not to make gain, both of the temporal and spiritual degradation of its people.

Fuel.—The parish possesses both peat and coal in abundance. The former is little used. The latter which is raised chiefly for exportation, sells at 1s a load, which weighs about four cwt., and is of very good quality.

Miscellaneous Observations.—We may mention generally, under this head, that the condition of all classes, even of the poorest, has very much improved since the date of the former Account. An entire new town and harbour has risen up at Troon; two railroads have been constructed; common roads have been formed, and all much repaired; what were little better than mud-walls have given place to substantial stone and lime, and in many places to elegant architecture. The comfortable, but unstable, thatch has been supplanted by slate; the fertility of the soil, by a better system of culture, has been inconceivably improved. Money with all ranks is much more abundant; and all these things tell upon the comfort, as we would hope they do upon the gratitude, of those who enjoy them. As to the moral condition of the people, we have not the same means of judging; but, glancing at the records which are scattered over a period of two centuries and a-half, we find that every generation has had its virtues and its vices, and we would suppose that the people at present are neither much better nor worse than their predecessors. The parish, and we think happily, is still free from factories of every kind: the attempt referred to in the former Account having completely failed. And as a lover of those among whom one would choose to dwell, one would say, long may such attempts continue to fail! For while agriculture and the kindred arts are favourable alike to the physical and moral health, there is obviously something in such employments destructive of both. And if experience has proved them to be injurious to men, they are a cruel bondage and degradation to the feebler sex. It is enough to make one's heart sick to look upon their wasted figures and colourless countenances, when compared with those who labour for their immediate bread in the pure light of day. But this evil, we fear, is, from the nature of things, without hope of remedy. The moral one, however, may be prevented; and should the root of it at any time be transplanted into this district, we trust that a moral and spiritual education will also keep pace with it, that the people may at least sink no lower, or become worse than they are.

RICCARTON.

(Caledonia).

The parish of *Riccartoun* was in former times called *Ricardstown* (also *Ricardstoun*). The name was obviously derived from some early proprietor of the name of Richard, and the common Anglo-Saxon termination of *tun*; forming *Ricardstun* or Richardstown. Tradition states that the person who gave the name to the place was Richard Wallace, who is said to have been the uncle of Wallace, the celebrated defender of his country's independence. But the person from whom Ricardtown derived its name lived rather too early to be the uncle of the illustrious Wallace. Yet it is highly probable that the name of the original proprietor was Richard Wallace; as the lands of Richardstoun were held under the Stewarts, in the 13th and 14th centuries, by a family of the name of Wallace, or rather Waleys, as it was written of old. During the reign of Alexander II. Richard Waleys held considerable estates in other parts of Kyle Stewart, under the second Walter; and he appears to have been then one of the most considerable vassals of the Stewart, in Kyle.

[NOTE by Chalmers.—In the south of Scotland there are several places known by the same name; as *Ricardtoun*, in Mid-Lothian; *Ricardtoun*, in West-Lothian; *Ricardtoun*, in Lanarkshire; *Ricardtoun*, in Roxburghshire; and *Ricardtoun*, in Clackmannanshire; all of which names were similarly derived from the appellation of Richard.]

It is therefore probable that this very Richard

Waleys also held the lands of Ricardstoun under the Stewart, and that the place obtained its name from him.

Ricardstoun was anciently a chapelry, which was subordinate to the parish church of Dundonald. It was granted, with Dundonald church, by the second Walter, the Stewart, to the convent which he founded, as we have seen, at Dalmulin, in 1229. When this convent was relinquished, in 1238, Walter granted the chapelry, with the church of Dundonald, to the monks of Paisley. The chapel of Ricardtoun was afterwards established as a parish church, which belonged to the monks of Paisley; and it remained as such till the Reformation. The monks meantime received the tithes and revenues, while the church was served by a chaplain, who was appointed, and by them. In a rental of Paisley abbey, which was given up to government in 1562, it was stated that the monks derived from the church of Ricardtoun 17 chalders, 6 bolls, and 1 firlot of meal yearly. In 1587 the patronage of the church of Ricardtoun, and the tithes belonging to it, which then appertained for life to Lord Claud Hamilton, as commendator of Paisley, were granted to him, and his heirs, with the other property of the monks of Paisley, which was created into a temporal lordship to him, in fee. In 1621 he was succeeded, in the whole, by his grandson, James, Earl of Abercorn. The patronage of the church of Ricardtoun was afterwards transferred to Cunningham of Caprintoun, who held it at the end of the reign of Charles II. And it still belongs to that family. After the Reformation the parish of Ricardtoun was united to the parish of Craigie, and both were placed under the charge of one minister. But they were again disunited in 1648, and have since remained distinct parishes.

[NOTE by Chalmers.—The parish of Riccartoun has been recently somewhat enlarged by a decree of the Court of Session.]

The church of Ricardtoun was almost wholly rebuilt in 1772. It stands at the village of Ricardtoun, which was made a burgh of barony in 1638; and contained, in 1811, upwards of 500 inhabitants.

(*The Statistical Account of Scotland.*)

[NOTE.—The contributor to the Statistical Account of Scotland of the account of "Riccardtoun," was the Rev. Alex. Moody. His contribution, which is in Volume VI., published 1793, is as follows:—]

"Riccardtoun" is evidently a corruption of "Richardtoun." It is generally supposed to have been so called from a Sir Richard Wallace, who lived in the vicinity of the village, and who is said to have been uncle to the celebrated Sir William Wallace. Of his house no vestige now remains; the place, however, where it stood, is well known.

Extent, Soil, and Rivers.—The parish is 6 miles long, and, on an average, 2 miles broad. The village of Riccartoun is within an English mile of the market place of Kilmarnock; and divided from the suburbs of the town by Irvine water. The soil of the parish, in general, is deep clay. The lands are all arable, and well enclosed, excepting a moss which may contain about 260 acres.

Irvine water, which runs through the parish, has its source in the parish of Loudon. There is also another small river, called the water of Cessnock, which runs through part of the parish, and, in one place, forms the boundary betwixt it and Galston. Irvine water provides excellent trouts. Sometimes salmon are catched in it.

There is nothing peculiar in the climate of the parish. It is subject, along with the other parishes of the west coast of Scotland, to frequent falls of rain. The weather is thus, at times, very variable; the inhabitants, nevertheless, enjoy a good state of health; nor are there any diseases peculiar to the parish. Although there be not many instances of people arriving at a very great age, yet not a few reach their 60th and 70th year.

Population.—When the returns were made to Dr Webster, the number of inhabitants in the parish amounted to 745; they are now increased to 1000. The increase has taken place in the village. There has been no register of burials kept in the parish for many years past; the annual average of births for 5 years preceding 1792, was 38, and of marriages, 12.

[NOTE by Mr Moody.—Men-servant's wages are from £6 to £9 per annum. Women-servant's wages, from £3 to £4. Day-labourers receive 14d in summer, and 1s in winter, without their meat. Taylors now receive 9d a day, with their victuals, which is more than double what they got about 20 years ago. Carpenters and masons have usually 20d a day.]

Rent.—The valued rent is £4000 Scotch. The real rent will amount to upwards of £4000 sterling per annum. Farms let from 15s to 30s per acre, and contain from 60 to 150 acres each. There are 8 large proprietors of lands in the parish, with a few smaller ones. Of the greater proprietors, 3 either constantly or occasionally reside in the parish.

Ecclesiastical State, Poor, and School.—There are very few Seceders and no Roman Catholics in the parish. Before the year 1648 there was only one minister for the parishes of Riccartoun and Craigie. A disjunction of the parishes was then made and a minister settled in each. The church of Riccartoun was almost wholly rebuilt in the year 1772, and is in tolerably good repair. The manse was lately rebuilt. The patron of the parish is Sir William Cunningham of Caprington, Bart. The stipend is 5 chalders of victual, meal, and bear, £340 Scotch in money, with a glebe containing 8 acres of arable land.

The poor of the parish are, at present, but slenderly supported. Almost the only fund for maintaining them arises from the voluntary contributions of the people at church. A considerable sum of money which belonged to them was, some years ago, lost by the failure of a mercantile company. The number of poor is, fortunately, not great. There are only at present upon the roll 15 persons, none of whom are permitted to beg. About £24 may be yearly collected.

The school here is very well attended. The people are, in general, desirous to give their children all the education which their circumstances will permit. The encouragement, however, is not great, the salary being only 100 merks. The wages are, for teaching English, 1s 6d; for writing, 2s; for arithmetic, 2s 6d per quarter.

Crops.—The principal crops reared in the parish are oats and bear; the farmers find from experience that the soil is much more favourable for producing oats. Till within these few years, little or no wheat was sown in the parish; a considerable number of acres are now, however, sown yearly with wheat, which, when the ground is well prepared, succeeds very well. The useful practice of summer-fallowing is much more common than it was some years ago. Pease and beans are also sown, and sometimes prove a very profitable crop.

Miscellaneous Observations.—At the village there is a mount of considerable bulk, the greater part of which appears to be artificial. On this, as on many others of the same kind, our ancestors met for distributing justice. The people are in general sober and industrious. The tradesmen in the parish are, with a few exceptions, either shoemakers or weavers. This district enjoys many natural advantages. Limestone is found in great quantities. The parish is also well supported with coal at a reasonable price. The coal belonging to Sir William Cuningham of Caprington, is justly esteemed the best in Ayrshire. Great quantities of blind coal have of late been raised in the parish; carried by land to Irvine, and thence exported to Ireland. It was proposed some years ago to dig a canal from Riccartoun bridge to join the sea at Troon; and it is to be wished that this scheme could be revived and carried into execution, as the benefits which would arise from it, particularly to the proprietors of coal, would be very great.

(New Statistical Account.)

[NOTE.—It was in the year 1838 that the Rev. James Porteous, minister of the parish, wrote his account of Riccarton. Mr Porteous, after dealing with the topography and national history, briefly sketches the Civil History. Sir William Wallace resided within the bounds for some time with his paternal uncle, and, according to Blind Harry, slew three out of five Englishmen who attacked him as he was fishing in the Irvine; the patriot having no more formidable weapon than his fishing rod. Sir Charles Cuninghame of Caprington, who was created a baronet by King Charles II., was a noted lawyer of his day, and described by Bishop Burnet as "not only learned in the civil and canon law and in all philosophical learning, but as being universal in all learning, in addition to which he had the most deserved reputation for integrity and virtue of any man, not only in his profession, but of the whole nation." His second son was the first who read lectures on the Roman law in Scotland. At Mosshead, estate of Treesbank, was born Sir James Shaw, Bart., the first Scotsman who had ever been Lord Mayor of London.

The only registers existing were the Session records, commencing with 1695. Among the old buildings, the Castle of Caprington was the chief, its antiquity being vouched for by a charter of 1835, where it is called "Castellum turris fortalicium de Caprinton." It originally belonged to a branch of the Wallace family. Other mansions were Treesbank, Shawhill, Dollars, Bellfield, and Millrig.

Population in 1755, 745; 1792, 1000; 1821, 2122; 1834, 2499, residing in 356 houses; males, 1250; females, 1249; population in 1828, 2714; males, 1310; females, 1404.]

Habits and Character of the People.—The people are plain and unaffected in their manners, industrious in their habits, and on Sabbath and other holidays neatly and well-dressed; their ordinary food simple, and when they are able to afford it, substantial. We doubt much

whether they enjoy many of the comforts of life, especially those employed in manufactures, the wages earned being at best but small, while the untoward fluctuations in trade often expose them to much poverty. The country population is, indeed, most respectable, the most of them being seemingly in easy circumstances; they are steady and regular in their habits, attentive to religious ordinances, intelligent and well-principled. I am happy to bear testimony to the general good conduct of a very large class of the inhabitants. I mean the colliers. There are very many of them in comfortable circumstances—inhabiting their own houses, bringing up families respectably, and seemingly surrounded with many comforts; many of them intelligent and pious men, and several of them having family worship regularly in their houses. Indeed, I may almost say with confidence, what can be but seldom said of the same class of workmen, that they are among the most orderly, industrious, and intelligent of our parishioners; and much of this is owing to the circumstances that most of them are natives of the place, and that the different coal proprietors are very careful in employing and encouraging only the best behaved.

Manufactures.—Hand-loom weaving is the chief branch of manufacture carried on in the parish. The principal kinds of work done are harness-shawls, plain-middles, and mousselin-de-laine. The work is got from Kilmarnock and Paisley. There are in the village between 40 and 50 families depending on the weaving, 94 weavers, between 50 and 60 pirn-winders, 40 draw-boys. The wages of the first-class 13s, deduct expenses 4s, nett wages 9s; second-class 7s, deduct expenses 1s 6d, nett wages 5s 6d. Draw-boys receive from 2s to 2s 8d per week; pirn-winders, 4d to 8d per day. We understand that the making of shoes for the foreign markets constituted at one time a very considerable branch of trade carried on here, but of late, from various causes, it has greatly declined, so that there is not above a dozen now employed in it in all the parish.

A great proportion of the females in the parish are employed in sewing and embroidering muslin. Their wages vary from 9d to 3s 6d per week; but this latter sum can only be earned at the best work, and by the most expert sewers, and at much expense of comfort to themselves. The employment, we believe, is very injurious to the general health of those employed, but especially to their chest and eyes.

Agriculture.—The parish contains about 18,000 acres, 500 of which are under wood, about 700 still in moss; which last, however, are yearly diminishing, as the different proprietors and farmers connected with them are yearly making inroads upon them with tile-draining and the plough-share. The rest is under cultivation. The rent of land varies from £1 10s to £3 10s per acre. The grazing of a cow or ox, £4. No sheep are grazed in the parish, excepting a few in the parks immediately surrounding the different mansions of proprietors. The cows are chiefly of the true Ayrshire breed, and the horses used for labour are all mostly of the Clydesdale variety.

Rate of Wages.—Farm servants' wages yearly are from £12 to £16, with food; women's, from £7 to £10; labourers in summer receive 12s; in winter, 10s.

Dairy.—This is much attended to, and from its produce the greater part of the rent in many cases is paid. Above 160 tons of cheese are produced annually. Other parishes may be better known for their dairy produce than this, but there are several individuals in the parish whose cheese, with the other productions of their dairy, can bear comparison with any in the county. To the making of cheese the utmost attention seems to be paid, both as it regards the mode of its manufacture and the materials of which it is made. Cheese of the best quality is selling at present about 12s per stone, Dutch weight. The price is regarded as high.

Husbandry.—Very great improvements are every year making in this province of industry, both from tile-draining, ditching, liming, enclosing, &c., and should they continue to go forward for a series of years, the beneficial results both to landlord and tenant will be very considerable; for while they will secure higher rents to the former, they will enable the latter, with much less difficulty and risk, from the improved quality of the crops and their greater certainty, notwithstanding the variableness of climate and other uncontrollable contingencies, to pay them. By the furrow-draining, which is decidedly the greatest improvement, the land may be said to increase in value fully at an average about £1 per acre of annual rental. The value of this improvement depends in individual cases upon several circumstances, such as the nature of the ground drained, the width between the drains, the size of the tiles used, &c. However, almost in every case the improvement is more or less felt. The amount of land drained annually in the parish is upwards of 200 acres. The cost of draining an acre is about £6.

If the proprietor does the whole, which sometimes happens, then the tenant pays in consideration 5s per acre additional rent during his lease. This latter practice is not frequent with the landholders in this part, except with the Duke of Portland, who drains the most extensively; but it is thought by men of much experience that they overlook their own interest in not adopting it.

The crops raised are oats, wheat, barley, potatoes, turnips. The usual rotation is, two or three years tillage, one hay, and five pasture. This order, however, is sometimes deviated from, according to the nature of the soil, &c.

The rental of the parish is supposed to amount to between £9000 and £10,000 annually, and the gross rental arising from lands, coal and tile-works, may be stated at about £15,000. The average size of farms is eighty acres. The enclosures in the parish are good, formed almost solely of hedge-rows, and these very thriving. The farm steadings on most of the properties are in good condition; many of them have double storied dwelling-houses, with extensive and substantial offices. The houses are chiefly thatched, but the larger and newer ones are almost all slated.

PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The nearest town is Kilmarnock, which is distant only one mile from the village.

Villages.—Riccarton village contains nearly 1200 inhabitants. There are two other villages in the parish, viz., Hurlford and Sornhill. In the former, there is a population betwixt 300 and 400, chiefly connected with different coal-works in the neighbourhood; and in the latter and its neighbourhood, which is above six miles from Riccarton, the population is nearly 100.

Means of Communication, &c.—There are two post deliveries from Kilmarnock daily. There are three great lines of highway traversing the parish—one from London to Glasgow,—another from Glasgow to Ayr and Portpatrick, which passes through the village,—and a third from Ayr to Edinburgh, which passes through the villages of Riccarton and Hurlford. These are kept in excellent order. The parish roads are likewise in tolerably good repair. Three stage-coaches, besides the Portpatrick mail, pass through the village from Glasgow to Ayr, and return daily. There is besides a coach which runs through the parish, and returns every day from Edinburgh and Ayr; one which runs from Glasgow to Dumfries, and a public omnibus betwixt Kilmarnock and Ayr. A private branch railway passes from the great coal-works at Caprington to the Kilmarnock and Troon railway. The great Western Railway between London and Glasgow, now in contemplation, is expected to cross the parish towards its eastern extremity on the line to Kilmarnock. Should it be carried into execution, the advantage to the parish will be incalculable.

Bridges.—Three are three principal bridges all over the Irvine, two at the village of Riccarton, and the other at Hurlford. One of those at Riccarton has been but lately built and only opened last Whitsunday. It is very handsome and substantial. It has three skewed arches, thus forming the largest bridge of the kind in this county, if not in Scotland. The bridge itself, with the new line of road connected with it, forms a most convenient and beautiful outlet from Kilmarnock, as well as a decided improvement to the village. The old bridge, which stands about thirty yards up from the new one, is in good condition. The other bridge is at Hurlford. It lately underwent very extensive alterations and repairs, which have rendered it very spacious and substantial. The smaller bridges in the parish are all in good order.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish originally was a chaplainry belonging to Dundonald. Afterwards, it was given to the convent of Dalmulin, on the bank of the Ayr; but upon the demolition of that religious house, it was transferred to the monks of Paisley, in whose hands it remained till the Reformation, while the duties of it were performed by a curate or chaplain appointed by that monastery. After the Reformation, it was united to the parish of Craigie, and continued so till its final disjunction in 1648. In 1621 the whole tithes belonged to the Earl of Abercorn. The patronage, too, was in his hands; but soon afterwards it was conferred upon the family of Caprington, who have continued to exercise it ever since. It is one of the best endowed parishes in the county. The present incumbent is the sixth minister since the Revolution.

Church.—The present church was built in 1823, but not on the site of the former one, which was in the burying-ground. It is erected on a mound in the middle of the village, partly natural and partly artificial, and which was formerly called "Seat of Judgment," having been, it is supposed, one of those court hills where justice was administered and executed in ancient times. It is a plain square building, of no particular style of architecture, but very substantial and commodious, and alike comfort-

able both for speaker and hearer. It is ornamented with a handsome spire and clock, and, as it stands on a considerable eminence, it forms a conspicuous object in the landscape. It cost, including every expense, about £4000. It might contain, allowing eighteen inches for each, 1192 sittings; but by the sheriff's decreet it is allocated for little more than 1000. The rest includes table-seats, &c., which are all free sittings. The situation of the church is rather awkward, being nearly six miles from the one end of the parish, and two from the other; but still it is not inconveniently for the great bulk of the inhabitants, the greater proportion of them being within a mile and a half distant, and nearly the one-half being closely adjacent to it. The system of seat-letting is not common —such seats as are let, except a few, being let at only a nominal price.

Manse.—The manse and office-houses were built between forty and fifty years ago. Upon the entrance of the present incumbent in 1837, they underwent some repairs, which have rendered them very comfortable. The glebe, including garden, stance of house, &c, is about eight acres in extent. Naturally, the soil is good, but, being in bad condition, it would not rent at present above £2 10s an acre. The garden contains about an acre, and is well enclosed on two sides by a high and substantial wall, lately built at the sole expense of the heritors. The stipend, as decreed by the Court in 1811, consists of 111 bolls, 1 firlot, 1 peck, 1¼ lippy meal, 77 bolls, 3 firlots, 1 peck, ½ lippy barley, with £60 3s 8d in money, and £8 6s 8d for communion elements.

There is no Dissenting place of worship in the parish. About forty years ago a chapel in connection with the Relief body was erected in the village; but it has long since been pulled down. The parish church is well attended. The number of communicants on last sacramental occasion was between 600 and 700, those who communicated for the first time amounting to 120. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper has hitherto been dispensed only once a-year; but arrangements have now been made for its dispensation twice a-year. The number of individuals belonging to the Established Church, when last ascertained, was 2410; to other denominations, including United Secession, Relief, Old Light, Cameronians, or Macmillanites, Independents, Baptists, Methodists, Episcopalians, and Roman Catholics, 304.

Education.—There are three schools in the parish, attended by upwards of 250 scholars. The average attendance at the parish school is 100. The branches taught are English reading, spelling, and grammar, arithmetic, writing and book-keeping, Latin, Greek, and French. The fees per quarter are the following:—For English reading, 3s; reading and writing, 3s 6d, with arithmetic, 4s; book-keeping, 6s; Latin, 7s 6d, with Greek, 10s Generally about one-half are taught reading only; the rest receive the various other branches above specified. The schoolmaster has the maximum salary. The average amount of fees annually is £50. He enjoys other small salaries and perquisites, as session, heritor's clerk, &c. One of the other schools is in the village, attended by about 100 scholars. The other is at Hurlford, attended by about 50 scholars; and to this are attached a free house and garden. The house was built by subscription, and the ground was given by the Duke of Portland. The teacher has no income independent of his fees. Nothing but the ordinary branches are taught in these private schools. A school of industry for females and an infant school are both very much needed in the parish. There are two Sabbath schools, one in the village of Riccarton, and the other at Hurlford; they are attended by about 180 scholars, and are both under the superintendence of the minister.

[NOTE.—There was one public library in the parish, with more than 400 volumes; four friendly societies — the Benevolent, the Friendship, the Munificent Friendly, and the Caprington Benevolent; one Temperance Society with 35 members and a juvenile branch with 10; and a Working Men's Association for political purposes. But no Missionary or Religious Societies, though Mr Porteous hoped to have this rectified.

The poor numbered about 30; average aliment £6 yearly. Two insane persons received each £14 annually. The assessment of the heritors was voluntary, and realised about £150 a year; collections at church doors £48; proclamation and mortcloth dues £5—in all £200—out of which was paid not only the poor's allowance but the salaries of the precentor, beadle, and church cleaner, besides the cost of small repairs on the church, manse, and schoolhouse. About 80 tons of coal were given to the poor by the proprietors, and carted gratuitously by the farmers.]

Inns, Alehouses.—There are 18 of such houses in the parish, which, considering its neighbourhood to Kilmarnock, are far too many for any good or useful purpose.

Fuel.—Coal is the only fuel in use, and it is

got at very reasonable prices. The price of the fire-coal at the pit-mouth, at present, varies from 5s to 6s per imperial ton.

Miscellaneous Observations.—Many changes have taken place in the parish since the last Statistical Account was drawn up in 1792, and many of them decided improvements. The people seem more intelligent; their wages are much higher, in some cases doubled; their comforts upon the whole greater. From the tile-draining the land has singularly improved, being, in consequence, now able to produce much better crops, and with greater certainty, than before. A considerable quantity of moss has been rendered arable since that time, there being now only about 70 acres in that state, whereas then there were 250. Instances of longevity seem now to be more numerous than formerly; and the population has nearly trebled. On most properties the farm steadings have been much improved; and the facilities of communication of every kind are now much more numerous. Church accommodation has been greatly increased; education is carried on with greater spirit, and the branches taught are more varied. It is only in the religious and moral habits of the people that I fear there has been no corresponding advancement.

CRAIGIE.

Caledonia.

The parish of Craigie obtained its name from several craigs and rocks near the church. *Craig*, in the British, signifies a rock, and the plural *creigian*, rocks. *Craig*, in the Gaelic, also signifies a rock, and *craigeach*, rocky. In the Scoto-Saxon speech, the name assumed the form of *Craigie*. During the reign of Malcolm IV., and William the Lion, the manor of Craigie was held by a family of the name of Hose, who were patrons of the church of Craigie, which was then a rectory. In the early part of the long reign of William, Walter Hose succeeded his father in the manor of Craigie, and his younger brother, John, was parson of the church of Craigie. The father had granted to this church half a carrugate of land; and the son of Walter granted to it another carrugate of land. About the year 1275, Walter Hose, for the salvation of the souls of his father and mother, granted to the monks of Paisley, in pure alms, the Church of Craigie, with all its lands and pertinents. This transfer was confirmed to the monks by the bishops of Glasgow and by several Popes.

[NOTE.—Chart. Paisley, No. 72, 75, 97, 98, 99, 77-8, 96, 149. In 1272 the Church of Craigie was confirmed to the monks of Paisley by Thomas de Craigie, the son and heir of John Hose. Thomas seems to have assumed the local surname of *Craigie* as more dignified than that of Hose. This family ended in two female heirs, Christian and Matilda, the daughters of Sir John Hose, Knight. Christian, the eldest, married Sir William Lyndesay, a younger son of Sir David Lyndesay of Crawford, by whom she had Sir Walter Lyndesay, who inherited the estate of Craigie from his mother; and from him it descended to Sir John Lyndesay of Craigie, who held it in the reign of David II.]

The manor of Craigie was held by Sir John Lyndesay during the reign of David II., and from him it passed, in the reign of Robert II., to John Wallace of Ricardtoun, whose son Hugh held Craigie, Ricardtoun, and other lands during the reign of Robert II. Craigie became the chief seat of the family of Wallace. The barony of Craigie was held by this family for four centuries, till about the year 1790, when it was sold *judicially* to pay the debts of Sir Thomas Wallace, the last possessor. The church of Craigie, with its pertinents, continued to belong to the monks of Paisley till the Reformation. The cure was served by a vicar pensioner, who had an established income, which was settled by Walter, the bishop of Glasgow, in 1227. By that settlement the vicar was to have the altarages, with 3 chalders of meal, or 100 shillings yearly. In Bagimont's roll, as it stood in the reign of James V., the vicarage of Craigie was taxed at £2 13s 4d, being a tenth of its estimated value. To the vicarage of Craigie there belonged a glebe two and a half mark lands of the old extent, which, after the Reformation, passed into lay hands. At the epoch of the Reformation, Wallace of Craigie held the office of baillie in Kyle for the monks of Paisley, and he received as his fee 6 chalders and 15 bolls of meal yearly out of the tithes of Craigie church. In 1587 the patronage and tithes of the parish church of Craigie, which then belonged to Lord Claud Hamilton for life, as Commendator of Paisley, were granted to him in fee, with the other property of the monks of Paisley. He was succeeded in the whole, during 1621, by his grandson James, Earl of Abercorn. Long afterwards, the patronage passed to Wallace of Craigie; and about the year 1790 was transferred to Campbell of Craigie, to whom it now belongs. After the

Reformation, the parish of Ricardtoun was united to that of Craigie, and both were placed under the charge of one minister, but they were again disunited in 1648. In 1658, when the old parish of Barnwell was suppressed, a part of it was annexed to the parish of Craigie, and the remainder to the parish of Tarbolton. The present parish church of Craigie was built in 1776.

Statistical Account.

[NOTE.—The author of the account of Craigie is the Rev. Andrew Shaw, minister of the parish, whose contribution appears in Volume V., published in 1793.]

Name, Erection, &c.—The name *Craigie* appears to have been given to this parish from several craigs or rocks, which are situated near the church. This parish and that of Riccartoun were formerly united, but were disjoined in 1647. It appears from records, that there were at that time, in the two parishes, above 2000 communicants, which far exceeds the number in both at present. What causes have produced this decrease, it may, perhaps, be difficult to ascertain. A considerable part of a small parish, called *Barnwell*, which was suppressed in the year 1673, when that of Stair was erected, is now annexed to Craigie.

Extent, Situation, Surface and Soil.—This parish is about 7 English miles in length, and 1¼ in breadth. It is situated in that district of Ayrshire called Kyle, in the presbytery of Ayr, and in the Synod of Glasgow and Ayr. Near the church and manse it is hilly. One may walk in the short space of five minutes from the manse to the top of one of the neighbouring hills, which, though not perhaps more than 500 feet above the level of the sea, yet commands a most extensive and delightful prospect. It may be safely said that above 100 square miles of rich land may be seen, and that in all that extent almost every nobleman and gentleman's seat, every town and village, every garden and wood, appear distinctly. Here also are beheld the venerable Benlomond and several of the other Grampian hills—the frith of Clyde flowing beautifully to the ocean—the ridges of the Isle of Jura—the lofty tops of Arran, and the majestic rock of Ailsa, beyond which the hills of Ireland seem to rise from the sea. The soil in general is rather light and gravelly. Some parts of it consist of a thin, poor clay, but there are many fields of a deep strong clay, which, when properly cultivated, produce in favourable seasons very rich crops. The greatest part of the parish is arable, and inclosed with hedge and ditch, but some parks are surrounded with stone dikes. There are likewise some good fields of meadow ground. The hills are covered with verdure, and afford excellent pasture for cattle.

Minerals.—Many parts of this parish contain coal, though only one pit is at present wrought. In some places which were wrought not long ago, two seams were found; the one a hard and lasting, and the other a light, or what is called a *candle coal*. When these were burnt together, they made an excellent fire. There are also 2 or 3 great lime-works, whose distance from coal is not above 2 English miles. About 60,000 bolls of lime may be raised annually. The profit thence arising must be considerable, while the neighbourhood is greatly benefited by the lime, some of which has been carried southward above 9 English miles. These lime works are in the eastern parts of the parish, and the western part of it is supplied with lime from quarries surrounding the limits of this parish to the north.

Climate, Diseases, &c.—The air, in general, is pure, and there are no distempers peculiar to the parish. Many of the inhabitants arrive at the age of 80, some at that of 90 years. They live neither in towns nor villages; they are employed chiefly in the open air, and are active, sober, and industrious; they are of late much improved in their dress and manner of living, and dwell in houses more neat and cleanly than formerly; circumstances which must contribute to health.

Produce and Cattle.—The grain chiefly cultivated in this parish is oats. Pease, beans, and barley are also raised, but in much smaller quantities. Potatoes are planted by almost every family for their own subsistence. Considerable quantities of ryegrass and clover seeds are also sown. No turnips, cabbages, or hemp are raised, and little flax, excepting some for private use. More grain is raised than is consumed in the parish; and much butter and cheese is sent to the markets of Ayr and Kilmarnock, and even to Paisley and Glasgow. Great attention is now given to the improvement of the breed of cows and horses, which have risen greatly in value within these few years. The number of horses, young and old, may be 246, and of cows 738. There are only a few sheep.

[NOTE.—The price of every article of provision has risen greatly of late, particularly of beef, butter, cheese, hens, and eggs, and may rise still higher in proportion as manufactures

increase, and as this country becomes more rich and populous. The prices of the above mentioned articles are regulated by the markets of Kilmarnock and Ayr, and they are also, in a great measure, affected by the more distant markets of Glasgow and Paisley.]

Population. – Upon comparing the present amount of annual baptisms with that of any particular period for a considerable time past, the state of the parish, with respect to population, does not appear to have been materially altered. Owing to the enlargement of farms, to the demolition of cottages, and to the increase of manufactures in the neighbourhood (to which persons of all ages resort), its population might, perhaps, be supposed on the decline. Yet it is a fact that the return to Dr Webster amounted only to 551 ; and at present the number of parishioners, young and old, are not under 700.

[NOTE.—Under 10 years of age, 156 ; above 10, and under 20, 140 ; above 20, and unmarried, 164 ; Married, 214 ; Widowers and widows, 26—700.]

They are mostly farmers, some are lime quarriers, some day-labourers, and there are a few of those tradesmen, who are essentially necessary in every country parish. At an average for the last 5 years, there have been 6 marriages, 14 baptisms, and 9 burials annually.

[NOTE.—The wages of a man-servant for the year are from £9 to £10, and of a maid-servant from £3 to £4. The wages of a harvest labourer are from £1 5s to £1 10s, and of a day-labourer 1s 3d in summer, and 1s in winter.]

Heritors, Rent, &c.—The number of heritors is 16, and 9 of them are resident. Of the heritors who reside, three have very considerable estates ; the property of the other 6 is small. The valued rent is L.3236 13s 3d Scotch. From the improvements made by the superior skill and industry of the tenants, and also from the advanced price of the produce of land, the rent has greatly increased within these last 30 years; yet the tenants are in a better condition than they were before that time. The leases are commonly for 19 years. The ground is cropped for 3 years, and rests 6. The number of Scotch acres is about 5500. The rent is from 10s to 20s *per* acre, taking the average of which, the present rent of the parish must be about L.4000 sterling *per annum*. But as some of the land is in the hands of the proprietors, that cannot be exactly ascertained. The farms are very unequal. Some are so small as to be under L.20. Some are from L.40 to L.60, and others are as high as L.140 *per annum*.

Church, Manse, and Stipend.—The church was built *anno* 1776, is a neat and commodious place of worship, and may contain about 600 people. The manse was built *anno* 1745, and has since been at different times repaired. The stipend consists partly of victual, and partly of money ; and, including the glebe may amount to L.96. The right of patronage belongs to William Campbell, Esq., of Craigie.

[NOTE.—The kirk of Craigie is said to have been formerly called *the Kirk in the Forest*, which name was probably given it from its being surrounded by woods ; but few trees are now to be seen near it. It is also said, that in this church, schemes were concerted by some of the principal reformers, whose estates lay in the neighbourhood for opposing the measures of the Queen Regent, and for promoting the interests of the Reformation, at its commencement.

Schools.—Here is a parochial school, and the master has a legal salary, a house adjoining to the school, and also a garden. The number of scholars is much greater in winter than in summer ; and, at an average, during the year, may be about 60. The wages *per* quarter are, for English, 1s 6d ; for writing, 2s ; for arithmetic and Latin, 2s 6d ; and a complete system of book-keeping is taught for 10s 6d. The schoolmaster's place, including all perquisites, may amount to L.30 sterling.

Poor.—There are, at present, 12 persons who receive public charity. The sum spent yearly, for their support, is about L. 20. This arises from the weekly collections made in the church, and from the interest of a sum of money belonging to the parish. None who reside here are vagrants. Attention is given that the children of those who are needy and indigent be properly educated.

Roads.—The roads were formerly made and kept in repair by the statute labour, but this is now converted into money ; 3d is paid for every pound Scotch of valuation, which may amount to about L.40 sterling yearly. The roads are kept in good order, considering the great number of coal and lime carts that are constantly passing over them.

Character.—The people are regular, peaceable, and industrious ; anxious, in their several occupations, to provide for themselves and their families ; and what they acquire by active labour they enjoy with moderation. Few of them may be called rich, though almost all of

them are far removed from poverty. When circumstances occur that call forth their humanity, they are charitable. They enjoy, in a reasonable degree, the benefits and comforts of society, and are, in general, contented with their circumstances and situation in life.

New Statistical Account.

[NOTE.—The account of Craigie, dated 1842, was contributed by the Rev. John Stirling, D.D., at that time the minister of the parish. Dr Stirling deals very briefly with the Topography and the Civil History. He gives the total Scots valuation of the parish at £3213 14s 3d. The mansion houses were three in number. Cairnhill "consists of two parts, separated by an area or small space between. The oldest part is a tower that has already stood the storms of several centuries, and is still in good repair and habitable." Barnweill is "a neat house, built about half a century ago" Underwood, a commodious house, was erected about the same time.]

Antiquities.—Craigie Castle, a very ancient building, was at one time the residence of the Wallaces of Craigie, but is now in a state of dilapidation. The castle has been surrounded with a moat enclosing about four acres of land; and the entrance into it was at the south-west side by a drawbridge.

There still exist some artificial mounds, (named law-hills), on which, in former times, persons guilty of crimes, real or supposed, are said to have been tried; but some of them appear to have been military encampments, especially the one on Barnweill hill, and another near Campcastle.

Population.—Amount of population in 1801, 786; 1811, 767; 1821, 803; 1831, 824; 1841, 779.

Industry.—This parish is entirely agricultural.

There are three limestone quarries, and there is one tile-work, lately erected, which produces good tiles, and is of great advantage to the farmers.

The parish contains coal of different kinds, both what is termed dross and cannel coal. The coal has been wrought in several places, and at different times, and at one of the works very lately, but the working is now discontinued as unprofitable.

The parish contains about 6300 imperial acres, all fit for cultivation, except about thirty acres of hills. There are also about forty acres of meadow, on which water is kept during winter for the use of corn-mills. Part of the hilly ground might be cultivated, but whether profitably or not, is doubtful. About thirty years ago, the uncultivated hilly land was double of what it is now.

There is only one corn-mill, viz. Heughmill. The loch attached to this covers about twenty acres of the meadow-land. There are other two lochs, viz. Fail loch, partly in this parish, and partly in Torbolton; the mill driven by the water of this loch is in Torbolton parish. Loch Brown is partly in three parishes, viz., Craigie, Mauchline, and Torbolton. The mill driven by its water is in the parish of Mauchline. This loch covers nearly a hundred acres, and is not dry in summer; and perhaps more than the half of it is in this parish.

The rental of the parish may amount to £7700 sterling, and the average rent per imperial acre, exclusive of woods, is £1 5s.

The length of lease is generally nineteen years. A general improvement in agriculture has taken place; ploughing is neatly executed, and the corners of the fields, and sometimes the borders of the hedges delved where the plough cannot reach; many of the grass-fields are cleared of thistles and other weeds, and the hedges generally are well kept. But the greatest improvement is that of furrow-draining. One of the proprietors, in order to have the draining on his property thoroughly executed, pays the whole expense of draining, except the carting of the tiles, and charges his tenants about four per cent. per annum on his expenditure; another pays the tiles at the kilns, charging the tenants 1s per thousand tiles, which comes to nearly five per cent. per annum; other proprietors assist a little, but the greater part of the draining is at the expense of the tenants.

The farm-houses are substantial and commodious. About a half of the farm-houses are now slated, and three of them are of two stories.

Produce.—In pasture, 3613; in oats, 1426; in beans, 128—5167 acres. In ryegrass, 720; in wheat, 13; in potatoes, 102—835 acres. In meadow, 100; in barley, 6; in turnips, 25—131; and in wood, planted for ornament or shelter, 167 acres. Total land in the parish of Craigie, 6300 acres.

The average size of the farms is about 90 imperial acres. The above is exclusive of the turnpike and parish roads, and of that part of Loch Brown that is flooded in summer, so that the whole contents of this parish are above ten square miles. The produce of the oats per acre

is from thirty-two to sixty-four imperial bushels, average forty-eight bushels per acre. The average produce of beans is twenty-four bushels per acre. Potatoes average about eight tons per acre; turnips average about sixteen tons per acre; ryegrass weighs about twenty-six cwt. of 112 lbs. each; and meadow hay weighs about twenty-eight cwt. per imperial acre on an average. Pease are included along with the beans. Perhaps there may be five or six acres of pease. The barley is mostly sown for family use. Little flax is sown, and few field-cabbages are raised, perhaps not more than an acre of each.

Live-Stock.—The live-stock is as follows: 148 horses and mares fit for work; 25 bulls, 759 milk cows; 437 young cows, including queys, stirks, and calves to be reared; 293 sheep, mostly of a mixed breed; and 145 swine. The milk of the cows is for the most part manufactured into sweet milk cheese, and the yearly produce of each cow is 2½ cwt. to 3½ cwt.; the average is 3 cwt. The whey is mostly used in feeding swine.

PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church was built in 1776, and the manse in 1808 and is in good repair. The stipend consists of sixteen chalders of grain, one-half oatmeal, and the other half barley, paid by the fiars price of the county, and £10 to provide communion elements. The glebe contains about five acres, and is worth £10 per annum. The patronage belongs to James Campbell, Esq. of Craigie.

One hundred and twenty-eight families belong to the Established Church; 3 families belong to the United Secession; and of other 9 families, part go to the Established Church, and part to the Secession.

Education.—There are two schools in the parish, the parochial school, and one in the south-west end of the parish, at Underhills, near Barnweill, and no additional schools are required, as the east end of this parish has the advantage of schools in the vicinity, one in the parish of Galston, and another in the parish of Mauchline. The schoolroom at Underhills is given free of rent by the proprietor, and the teacher is supported by the school-fees.

The parochial school-house was built in 1807. The schoolmaster's salary is the maximum; and the average amount of school-fees per annum for ten years is about £20 sterling, making the schoolmaster's income about £54 per annum, exclusive of house and garden.

Friendly Societies.—There are two Friendly Societies for males only, and their expenditure yearly is from £60 to £70.

Poor.—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is 12, who are paid monthly from the poor's funds. A few others receive aid occasionally. The average sum paid to each of these twelve is £4 2s 5d per annum. Three of these have about £6 each; the rest have considerably less than the average. The annual average amount of contributions for relief of the poor for the last nine years is £51 19s 1d.

SYMINGTON.

Caledonia.

When William the Lion succeeded his brother Malcolm in 1165, the lands of Symontoun were held under Walter, the first Stewart, by *Symon* Loccard, from whom the place obtained the name of *Symonstoun*. The same Symon Loccard also held a manor in Lanarkshire which acquired from him the same name of *Symonstoun*. He was succeeded in both those estates by his son, Malcolm Loccard, who granted to the monks of Paisley, in pure alms, for the salvation of the soul of Walter, the son of Alan, six acres of land "in *Villa Symonis* de Kyil" (Chart. Paisley). Symon Loccard, who thus gave his name to Symonstoun in Kyle, and Symonstoun in Lanarkshire, was the progenitor of the Lockharts of Lee, and of other families of the same name. The church of Symonstoun was granted to the Convent, which was founded at Feil or Faile, in Kyle, during the year 1252; and it continued to belong to that Convent till the Reformation (MS. Rental Book). The cure was served by a vicar pensioner, who had a settled income and a glebe; and the minister and brothers of Fail enjoyed the remainder of the tithes and revenues.

[NOTE by Chalmers.—There belonged to the vicarage of Symontoun, in Kyle, a glebe extending to forty shillings land of old extent, which was granted in fee farm to Cunningham of Caprington about the time of the Reformation.—Inquisit. Special.]

In Bagimont's Roll, as it stood in the reign of James V., the vicarage of Symontoun, in the deanery of Kyle, was taxed £2 13s 4d, being a tenth of its estimated value. After the Reformation, the patronage of the church of Symontoun passed through several hands, and was at length acquired by the Earl of Eglinton. It still continues in that family, being at present held by Lady Mary Montgomery. The

parish church of Symontoun is old, and the time of its erection is unknown. It was thoroughly repaired at the middle of the eighteenth century, but it is dark and too small. It stands at the village of Symontoun, which contained 204 inhabitants in 1792.

Statistical Account.

[NOTE.—The account of Symington was contributed by the Rev. William Logan, the minister of the parish, and appears in Vol. V., published in 1793.]

Situation, Extent, Soil, Surface, &c.—The parish of Symington, in the shire of Ayr, in the Synod of Glasgow and Ayr, and in that district of the county called Kyle Stewart, affords few materials for statistical investigation, as it contains neither any antiquities, natural curiosities, nor has been the scene of any singular or eventful transactions. The length of the parish from S.W. to N.E. is little more than 4 miles, and its mean breadth about a mile and a quarter. The soil, in general, is clayey, a few fields excepted of a fine vegetable mould, on a bottom of rotten rock. It presents a surface beautifully diversified with gentle rising grounds and sloping fields. The public road from Portpatrick to Glasgow and Edinburgh, one of the most pleasant and best frequented in North Britain, runs the whole length of the parish; which, in this district, is made of very durable materials, being land or whin stones collected off the fields, beaten small, laid on to a great thickness, and kept in excellent repair. On every side there is an easy descent for the rain water to run into the ditches, which are well scoured from time to time. This road from the Monkton road till it reaches the middle length of Symington, rises by a gradual ascent, and from thence descends to Kilmarnock. On the highest parts within the parish, the traveller is presented with extensive, beautiful, grand, and diversified prospects, consisting of the wide and fertile plains of Kyle and Cunninghame, with their numerous enclosures, belts, clumps of planting, and gentlemen's seats. These most rich and delightful views are bounded on the south, east, and north by distant cloud-capped mountains, and on the west by the firth of Clyde, in which are seen the magnificent and wave-surrounded rock of Ailsa, the island of Arran, with its towering summits, and the ships sailing to and from Ayr, Irvine, Saltcoats, Greenock, and Port-Glasgow.

Water, Climate, and Diseases.—There are no rivers in the parish, nor even a stream which deserves the name of a rivulet; but the inhabitants are generally supplied with excellent water from open springs or from sunk wells.—From the quality of the soil and the local situation of the parish, the air is dry and salubrious. The clouds which rise from the Atlantic, being attracted by the distant hills on every side, float in fogs on their summits; and, when they break into rain, the greatest part of it falls on them. Hence the inhabitants are remarkably healthful, and no local distempers of any kind prevail among them. Even when they are visited by the natural small-pox, the disease is generally more mild than in the neighbouring parishes. Innoculation has only taken place in two or three instances, and it were earnestly to be wished that the minds of parents could be reconciled to adopt that happy method of saving their offspring from the ravages of a most virulent disease. There are no remarkable instances of longevity; but what is of more importance than a few accidental examples of uncommon old age, great numbers enjoy the blessings of health and strength to an advanced period of life, and a few are living at present who, between 80 and 90, can undergo considerable fatigue in their respective callings, and with cheerfulness entertain the young with the tales of former times.

Improvements.—About 50 years ago, this parish, like others in the neighbourhood, was almost in a state of nature. At that period there were no enclosures, except the glebe, and a few acres adjoining, which, about 70 years ago, were inclosed with hedge rows. The country in winter was a naked waste, scarce a tree appeared to gratify the wandering eye, except a few about the seats of residing heritors; and the roads were all deep and unformed. The unmanured and half ploughed fields yielded scarcely three returns; which, after servants' wages and a trifling rent were paid, afforded only a scanty subsistence for the farmer and his family. About the year 1740 the proprietor of the lands of Dankeith, who was a bachelor, and resided occasionally, planted with taste several belts and clumps on his property, dressed a few of his fields with compost, and was among the first who introduced rye-grass into Ayrshire; but as he did not reside constantly, his improvements were partial, nor were the minds of his neighbours sufficiently enlarged to adopt the example he had set them. They continued their wretched husbandry, without any attempt to meliorate or improve the soil, until about 20 years ago, when the lands of Rosemount, on the S.W. end of the

parish, were fertilised and beautified by the skill and attention of the proprietor, who holds them mostly in his own possession. This gentleman, distinguished by fortune and public spirit, began to improve his parental inheritance with an ardour and assiduity becoming an enlightened and generous mind. He laid out his fields with taste, surrounded them with planting, enclosed them with proper fences, and meliorated a naturally cold, stiff, and clayey soil with calcareous and other manures. The good effects of his improvements soon appeared not only on his own property, but also on that of other proprietors, who laudably imitated the example, and, in a short time, similar improvements were made through the whole parish, which was enclosed and made arable; and the land, which before that period was let, on an average, for 2s 6d per acre, is now let at £1 1s. It is a singular fact and worthy of remark, that the rental of the lands of Rosemount, which, at the period above mentioned was only £70 per annum, and thought to be high, is now nearly ten times the value; and about 20 acres of that property which was then let for *one pound of butter per acre*, and believed to be a fair rent, is now let at £1 5s. From a spirited and well managed husbandry, not only the value of these lands is thus surprisingly increased, but also the population; for besides a number of labourers from the neighbourhood, who find constant employment, and unmarried servants, there are 17 families in separate houses, with a numerous and healthy progeny, well lodged, fed, and clothed, where formerly there were but 7, every way poorly accommodated.

Agriculture and Produce.—The mode of culture generally practised in the parish is this: Every farm is divided into three parts. Each of these is plowed in its turn for 3 years, and remains in grass for other two. The tenant is bound to sow grass seeds with the third year's crop, and is allowed only to cut his hay for one season. This, however, deprives him of the power of trying any useful experiments, or of using any other kind of rotation; which, perhaps, might be more advantageous to himself, and more improving to the soil. Hence the principal productions are oats and bear, with some barley. Wheat is reckoned to be a precarious crop, and very little of it is raised, from a conviction that two crops of oats are more profitable. Green crops, such as turnips, pease, and beans, are sown in small quantities, though the soil seems excellently adapted for the latter. There is lime in the parish and in the neighbourhood. 100 bolls, consisting of 5 Winchester bushels each, when slacked, are commonly laid on each acre before it is broke up by the plough. After this manure, the farmer may expect, when the seasons are favourable, two excellent successive crops of oats, yielding generally from 6 to 10, which may be estimated to produce, at an average, 7 returns. Little lint is raised but for domestic use. Potatoes are only raised for the same purpose, or feeding of cattle. The farms at present in lease are 25. Two of these consist of about 200 acres each, one of 160, two 120, two 100, two between 70 and 80, six from 50 to 60, five from 30 to 40, and the rest from 25 to 12, besides a few acres rented by some of the villagers. New leases for 19 years are granted at from 17s to £1 5s, and some land about the village at £1 10s per acre. Many of the tenants being bound to pay the cess and statute labour, the latter is commuted at £1 5s on each £100 Scotch of valued rent.

Cattle, &c. — There are in all about 100 horses in the parish; some are hired for farm work during the winter and spring. The price of draught horses is generally from £20 to £25. All the ploughs except one or two are of the Scotch kind, and drawn by three horses, because the soil, in general, is deep, clayey, and stiff.—There are about 290 cows of a middle size, and generally of a good milk kind, giving from 10 to 14 Scotch pints per day.

[NOTE by the Rev. Wm. Logan.—2320 stones of excellent sweet milk cheese are made yearly, which, at 7s per stone, is £812; 1160 stones of skimmed milk cheese at 4s per stone are £232. 385 stones of butter, at 12s per stone, are £232. The value of cheese and butter made in the parish is £1276, which, at an average, is £4 8s per cow. Little milk is sold in the parish, as most of the villagers keep one or two cows. Three fourths of the butter and cheese are sold in Ayr, Kilmarnock, Glasgow, and other places. It may be thought that this is a very profitable produce to the farmer or cowkeeper; but let it be considered that his rent is high, and the price of his cows generally from £7 to £9 per head; that to manage a dairy well requires expense, labour, and attention, and the hire of maid servants, who understand it, is from £3 10s to £4 per annum. The wages of men servants, who can plow, are from £8 to £9. Those who keep cows and rent no land pay £2 for the grass of each, and it will cost from £1 5s to £1 10s to maintain them through the winter. The balance on their produce is but

a trifling reward for the time, cost, care, and attention bestowed on them.]

The young ones reared annually may be between 50 and 60. Few cattle are fattened, for they do not yearly exceed 150. The profits in this way, no doubt, are fluctuating, and depend on the rise and fall of the markets for lean and fat cattle; yet, as feeding is attended with less trouble and expense than the management of the dairy, it may be frequently more advantageous. The sheep are mostly of the domesticated and improved kind, but the enclosures are too small for their walk, and they are destructive to the hedges.

Village and Population. — The village of Symington is most delightfully situated in the centre of the parish. It stands on a rocky ground, and abounds in most excellent water from the purest springs. It contains 56 families, or separate dwellings. Two of these families consist of 10 persons each, two of 9, four of 7, four of 6, six of 5, four of 4, nine of 3, sixteen of 2, and nine houses or rooms are inhabited by individuals; in all 204 inhabitants. It is to be regretted that in so fine a situation the houses are not built in such order as to form a regular street. The population of the parish has increased within these 30 years, owing chiefly to the many married ploughmen and labourers who live on the lands of Rosemount. One fourth part of the inhabitants in the country part of the parish reside there, although these lands consist only of about a sixth of the surface, and are mostly in the proprietor's own possession.

Statistical Table.—Length in English miles, 4; breadth, 1¼; population in 1792, 610; population in 1755, 359; increase, 251. Average of births for 8 years preceding 1791, 18; of deaths, 8; of marriages, 5⅞. Inhabitants in the village, 204; inhabitants in the country, 406; number of males, 295; number of females, 315; number of persons under 10 years of age, 156; persons between 10 and 20, 142; persons between 20 and 30, 72; persons between 30 and 40, 82; persons between 40 and 50, 79; persons between 50 and 60, 48; persons between 60 and 70, 22; persons between 70 and 80, 6; persons between 80 and 90, 3. Number of families, 133; number of married persons, 184; number of widowers, 8; number of widows, 23. Number of members of the Established Church, about 590. Number of families of Antiburgher Seceders, 3; number of Burgher do., 1. Number of persons born in Ireland, 5; number of proprietors residing, 7; number do., non-residing, 9; number of clergymen, 1; number of schoolmasters, 1; number of farmers above £50 a-year, 15; number do. under £50, 9; number of keepers of alehouses, 2; number of smiths, apprentices included, 5; number of masons, 1; number of wrights, 3; number of weavers, 10; number of shoemakers, 7; number of tailors, 5; number of millers, 2; number of coopers, 1; number of hosiers, 1; number of male servants unmarried, 30; number of female do., 37; number of plough-makers, 2; number of day labourers, 25; number of poor, 6; number of young persons taught English, writing, &c., from 40 to 50; number of ploughs, 38; valued rent, in Scotch money, nearly £2000; real rent, in sterling, *anno* 1792, about £3000; number of draught horses, 95; number of saddle do., 8; number of carriage do., 4; number of young do., 13; number of sheep, 200; number of black cattle, about 500.

Annual Produce.—Crops: Oats, 644 acres; bear, barley, and wheat, 190 acres; beans, pease, and potatoes, 132 acres; in pasture, planting, and meadow hay, 1934 acres.

[NOTE by the Rev. William Logan.—The mason is also a farmer, but mason work is likewise performed reasonably by the cooper and the plough makers, who are very useful and expert at various other handicraft employments. The day-labourers are all married, and are either hired by the day or the year at the lime quarries, &c. The wages of tradesmen and labourers are the same as in the neighbouring parishes; and the prices of provisions are regulated by the markets of Ayr and Kilmarnock. The total produce of oats *per annum* is about 4500 bolls. These bolls measure 8 Winchester bushels each. Of these oats 2125 bolls were milled last year in the parish.]

Church and Heritors.—The church is old, and bears no date; it is also dark, and too small. About 40 years ago, it received a thorough repair, being furnished with new pews, all painted, and the roof was plaistered. It has received some partial repairs since that period. The walls and roof, which is oak, and said to have grown in the parish, where there is now no natural wood, are still good, but the ceiling begins to fail. The Earl of Eglinton is patron. The stipend is 106 bolls 2 firlots of meal, 13⅓ bolls bear, and, by a late decreet of the Court of Teinds, £35, with £4 3s 8d for communion elements, making in all, at the old conversion, £100; but, according to the average price of meal and bear for some years past, its real value may be £120, exclusive of the glebe, which is not 4 acres. In 1786, the heritors, unsolicited, and with a liberality

which distinguishes their character, built a large, commodious, substantial, and well-finished manse and offices. The two principal residing heritors live in elegant modern houses, pleasantly situated. One of these in particular commands the view of a rich, various, and extensive landscape; and though by no means in an elevated situation, yet part of 13 different counties are seen from the top of the house. The fields, orchard, garden, and pleasure grounds around it do honour to the judgment and taste of the proprietor.

School and Poor.—In 1788, a house, with a slated roof, was built for the schoolmaster, consisting of a school-room, kitchen, and small bed-room. The salary is only 100 merks Scotch, or £8 6s 8d sterling. The fees of the master are: for teaching English 1s 6d *per* quarter; for writing, 2s; for arithmetic, 2s 6d, with some small emoluments as session-clerk and for registering baptisms and marriages. The whole does not exceed £23. The number of poor in the parish who, at present, receive aid from the charitable funds, are, 2 poor widows with their young families, 3 infirm and aged persons, and 1 insane There were more till of late. They receive a large monthly allowance, and none are permitted to go a-begging. Before they are received on the roll they must acknowledge the session to have a claim on their effects if they leave any. As the great road from Portpatrick to Glasgow, &c., runs through the parish it is infested with Irish vagrants, and with sturdy beggars from the neighbouring towns. Our funds for the poor on the session roll, are the weekly collections, which, at an average, is 6s per week, making £15 12s per annum, and the interest of £260 accumulated in former times, when few or no poor were on the box. This sum is lent out on proper security, and brings yearly about £12 4s, which, with the collections amount to £27 16s, and is adequate to the present exigencies of the poor; but some years past, when they were more numerous, the session, who manage the funds, with the consent of the heritors, were obliged to encroach upon a few pounds of the capital. Besides assistance to regular pensioners, occasional supplies are given to distressed families. No parish, perhaps, bestows more liberally on the poor. It appears from an old session record, that, about 70 years ago, the weekly collections, at an average, did not exceed 8d sterling.

Character.—The inhabitants of this parish in general are sober and industrious, attentive to their respective callings, and exemplarily regular in their attendance on divine ordinances. They are, for the most part, moderate in their religious sentiments, charitably disposed, and seem contented with their condition. They have a taste for dress, and young women of the middle, and even of the lower ranks, would now blush to be seen in the blue cloaks, red plaids, and plain caps, which only 20 years ago adorned their sex: Nay even the scarlet mantle, which lately was a badge of distinction among the daughters of farmers, is now despised; and, *O tempora! O mores!* the silk-worms of the East must be pillaged to deck the heads and shoulders of our milk-maids. The bonnet-makers of Kilmarnock no longer find demand for their manufacture from the servant men and labourers in this part of the country; but hats are worn both by men and boys of all ranks. Our young men are not to be seen, at church or market, in a coat of their mother's spinning, but dress themselves in English broad cloths, fashionable cotton stripes, and fine linen. Every stripling, as soon as he arrives at puberty, must have a watch in his pocket; whereas, only 40 years ago, there were but 3 in the parish.

Advantages and Disadvantages.—The parish derives several advantages from its local situation, which is in a populous, well-cultivated district of the country, and not above 6 or 7 miles from three principal market towns, where the farmer finds ready sale for the produce of his dairy and farm. Both limestone and coal are in the parish The latter, at present, is not wrought, but it abounds in the neighbourhood, and the roads to the pits and quarries are all in excellent repair. The farms are well inclosed and divided, and the tenants comfortably lodged. But among the many advantages of the parish, there are a few disadvantages, and the want of manufactures in the village is none of the least. An individual, for 3 years past, has made an attempt to carry on a branch of the woollen manufacture, by which he employs a few spinsters; but want of stock obliges him often to purchase the materials on credit, and consequently, at a high price; and to sell the produce instantly, at whatever ready money it will bring. Were moderate feus granted, and encouragement given to woollen or cotton manufacturers to settle here, the pleasantness of the situation, the purity of the air, the excellence of the water, the goodness of the roads, the nearness of coal, and the vicinity of Symington to so many market towns, would render it a most eligible place. Were such branches carried on to any considerable extent,

the property around would be rendered still more valuable, and old and young who could work might be profitably employed. There are 2 corn mills in the parish, where, when supplied with water (which fails in frost or drought), the best oat-meal in the country is made; but this advantage is clogged with a material disadvantage. Many of the tenants are restricted to a heavy thirlage, which is a pernicious check on agriculture, and is a species of vassallage that ought to be abolished in every civilised and improving country.

Miscellaneous Observations.—There are only two houses where ale and British spirits are sold; one in the village, which is not much frequented; and the other by the side of the public road, where the weary traveller may find refreshment.—No person belonging to the parish has been judicially impeached or convicted of any crime in the memory of the oldest inhabitant, except one unfortunate woman, who was banished many years ago.

New Statistical Account.

[NOTE.—The contribution to the new Statistical Account is dated March, 1839, at which time the minister of the parish was the Rev. Thomas Smith Wharrie, A.M. The account, however, was drawn up by Mr John Dunlop. It is comparatively meagre, and brings out few features of interest that are not already embraced in the preceding contribution.]

Antiquities.—This parish can scarcely boast of any antiquities. Formerly there was a round mound called the Law-hill, at the foot of the village, partly natural and partly artificial. When the proprietor, Mr Boyd, in improving his land, caused the Law-hill to be levelled with the adjacent field, those employed in doing so found, at no great depth from the surface, several arrow-heads made of iron, most of them barbed, and very rudely constructed. They also found combs made of horn in a pretty good state of preservation. These are in the possession of William H. Boyd of Townend, and the Rev. Mr Wharrie. There is also an eminence near Helenton called the Mote-hill, upon which a ruin stands, but of which tradition takes no notice.

[NOTE.—Modern buildings included Williamfield House, its cost, with surrounding improvements, upwards of £20,000. Other houses were Townend, Dankeith, and Rosemount.

The population in 1801 was 608; 1811, 656; 1821, 744; 1831, 884; 1838, 825. The decrease in the last-mentioned year was due to the departure of workmen when Williamfield House was finished. The village population in 1838 was 276. In the three years preceding 1839 there were 8 illegitimate births in the parish.

The acreage of the parish, 3660; in plantation, about 300; the remainder nearly all arable and under cultivation. The woods included ash, alder, beech, birch, elm, larch, silver, spruce, and Scotch firs. Average rent of land about £1 15s the imperial acre, but some around the village as high as £3 12s. Cows grazed in summer for about £3 each; sheep at about £1 each during both summer and winter. There were about 400 dairy cows in the parish, and 121 young cattle; about 90 Clydesdale horses, and 14 young horses, besides about 41 horses used for harness and the saddle; about 92 swine, many of the cottars not thinking themselves comfortable without swine of their own feeding; and 550 sheep, Cheviot, Leicester, and blackfaced. The land had been very much improved in recent years by furrow-draining. Leases ran from sixteen to nineteen years. The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish was, as nearly as could be ascertained, £10,080 15s.]

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is situated near the centre of the parish, being about two miles distant from its farthest extremity. At what time it was built, is uncertain. It received an addition in 1797, when the whole underwent a sufficient repair. It can accommodate with ease 400 people. There are thirty or forty free sittings in the church.

The manse was built about the year 1786, and re-slated in 1838. The stipend consists of 120 bolls of oatmeal, and 120 bolls of barley, Linlithgow measure, payable by the fiar prices of the county, besides L.22 1s in money, and L.8 6s 8d for communion elements. The glebe contains about five imperial acres, and may be worth about L.15 per annum.

There is a Dissenting meeting held once a fortnight in a garret room; but there are not above five or six Dissenting families in the parish. Divine service is generally well attended by all ranks of people. The number of communicants are about 240, not including strangers who join in that ordinance.

The church collections for the poor average about L.26 a year.

Education.—The parochial school is the only one in the parish where from seventy to eighty children are taught English grammar, writing,

arithmetic, Latin, Greek, French, &c. The salary of the schoolmaster is L.34 5s 10d. The school fees may average about L.40 a year. The schoolmaster has a dwelling-house, school-room, and garden.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—About eight poor people receive monthly 5s each, besides having their house rents paid out of the poor's fund. A considerable number also receive assistance, who are not on the monthly roll of paupers. The annual amount of collections made at the church for behoof of the poor, is about L.26; the poor have also the interest of L100, left by the late Mrs Fullerton of Rosemount.

When the funds for the support of the poor have been expended the heritors voluntarily subscribe, according to their respective valuations, for what may be required for that purpose.

Inns, &c.—There are six houses in the parish where spirits and ales are sold; three of these are in the village, the other three are on the Glasgow and Portpatrick road, where the stage-coaches and mails change horses.

Fuel.—Coal is the only kind of fuel used in this parish: it is procured from Fairlie, Gatehead, and Caprington coal-pits, in the adjoining parishes of Dundonald and Riccarton.

ST QUIVOX.

Caledonia.

The parish of St Quivox was, anciently, called *Sanchar* or *Senechar*. This name was derived from the Gaelic *Sean-chaer*, signifying the old fort. The places named Sanchar, in Nithsdale and in Moray, derived their names from the same source. In charters of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, the name was written *Senechar* or Sanchar. In subsequent times it was changed to Sanquhar, the *quh* being substituted for the *ch*. The church of Sanchar appears, in 1212, to have been then a rectory (Charts., Paisley.) This church, with its property and pertinents, was granted by the second Walter to the Gilbertine convent, which he established at Dalmulin in 1229 (Charts., Paisley. This grant was confirmed by Alexander II.) When this establishment was relinquished in 1238, Walter, the Stewart, granted the church of Sanchar, with all its property and pertinents, to the monks of Paisley.

[NOTE.—This was confirmed by William, the Bishop of Glasgow, in 1239. It was also confirmed by the Popes, and it was confirmed by Alexander the Stewart, the son and successor of Walter.]

The church of Sanchar continued to belong to the monks of Paisley till the Reformation, though it did not continue to bear the same local name. Long before that epoch, the name of the patron saint, to whom the church was dedicated, had supplanted the local name. At the epoch of the Reformation, this church was called *Saint Kevoc's* church, or the church of *Saint Kevoc*, and the parish was of course called by the same name. Sanchar, however, continued to be the name of the several estates which were portions of the ancient territory, or manor. The name of Saint Kevoc's, which the church had borne at the epoch of the Reformation, and during the reign of James VI., afterwards went through the changes of *Saint Kevocke's*, *Saint Keevox*, *Saint Queevox*, *Saint Quivox*, which last is now the name of the church and parish. A Saint *Kevoc* nowhere appears. Like other property of the monks of Paisley, this parish came first to Lord Claud Hamilton, and settled at last on the Earl of Abercorn. The patronage of Saint Quivox church has belonged to Oswald of Auchincruive for many years. This estate of Auchincruive lies in this parish, and is the same place which is called Achenero in the foundation charter of the convent at Dalmulin. The lands of Achinero then belonged to Richard Waleys. When St Quivox church was repaired in 1767, a new aisle was built by Oswald of Auchincruive, the patron, for the accommodation of his family.

Statistical Account.

[NOTE.—The account of Saint Quivox is from the pen of the Rev. Mr M'Quae. It appears in Vol. VIII., published in 1793.]

Extent and Soil.—The parish of St Quivox contains about 3500 acres of land, all of which is arable, except some part of the banks of the river Ayr, which are steep and covered with natural wood or plantations. The soil is various; nearest the sea it is sandy—a small part of it is a light gravelly soil with a dry bottom: Towards the east it is more clayey, and in general has a hard bottom of till or rotten rock which makes the uneven surface stratum, springy and wet. There are about 100 acres of meadow land; a part of which is

much injured by the overflowing of a small rivulet that is stopped in its course by a mill-dam. There are likewise about 100 acres of wood and plantations. The whole parish has been enclosed with hedge and ditch within the last 30 or 40 years, and in general the hedges are in a thriving condition.

Population.—In 1755, the population was 499. In the country part of the parish there are at present 96 families, which contain 490 souls of all ages. There are two excellent modern built mansion houses, pleasantly situated on the banks of the river; the one belonging to Mr Oswald of Auchencruive, and the other to Mr Campbell of Craigie, who reside in them occasionally. Two-thirds of the parish are the property of Mr Oswald, and the other third is divided among 7 different heritors. Three of these farm their own property. Thirty families live by farming; 4 blacksmiths, 4 masons, 5 colliers, 4 house carpenters, 3 weavers, the remaining 43 are labourers, or poor, or employed in different ways about the collieries. Married pairs, 81; widows, 8; bachelors, 5; widowers, 2—total, 96. There are 5 married men above 80 years of age, all poor, except one; and their wives above 70 except one.

Rent and Produce.—The lands are set from 12s to 40s an acre, and even some so high as £3; but the average of the whole parish is about 20s an acre. There are in the parish about 132 horses, value £1475, 350 milch cows, value £2000, 200 young cattle at £2 value £400, 200 fat cattle at £5, value £1000, 104 carts at £4, value £416. None of the farmers keep a regular stock of sheep on account of their hedges. A few are bought in occasionally to be fattened for the butcher, and a few of English breed are kept as pets.—These together may be valued at £50. The annual produce of a milch cow, besides her calf, is from £3 to £4, the average £3 10s.—Butter, 9d per lib. of 24 ounces; and cheese from 2½d to 6d the same weight.

Agriculture.—As to agriculture, the general practice is to plough the land for 3 years and to lay it out into grass for 6, after which it is again ploughed for 3 years, and so on during the tack. Lands are commonly let for 19 years, and the above course of management is specified in the tacks; however, a better rotation of crops is sometimes followed. 1st, Potatoes with dung, or (though seldom) turnips. 2d, Barley with red clover, 10 or 12lb. to the acre. 3d, Red clover. 4th, Oats. Then 5th, potatoes with dung, and so on as before. This is found to be a good plan on dry land. But the staple articles with the farmers here are oats and bear. Small patches only are sown with wheat, pease, beans, and barley. Lime is universally used as a manure; it is laid upon the grass a year or two before the field is to be plowed; the quantity about 100 bolls per acre; that is, 200 Winchester bushels of unslacked lime, which commonly yield 400 bushels of slaked lime. Sometimes it is laid upon a fallow, but seldom. Lime costs 5d per boll, and the carriage 4d; the kilns being 6 or 7 miles distant Hence at the rate of 100 bolls per acre, it costs the farmers £3 15s. They sow for two successive years 6 or 7 Winchester bushels of oats per acre, in the month of April, and reap from 4 to 10 bolls in the month of September or October. The third year the whole dung of the farm is applied as far as it will go, for bear, of which they sow 4 bushels per acre, and reap from 4 to 7 bolls. Along with the bear they sow 3 bushels of ryegrass seed, 8lb of red clover, and 5 or 6lb of white clover. The crop of hay is sometimes 200 stone, 24lb to the stone, each acre; but more frequently does not exceed 100 stone. It is usually cut for two years, then pastured for 4; after which it is plowed for oats.

Wages.—Men servants receive from £6 to £8 a year of wages. Women servants from £3 to £4 a year; but they are commonly hired for half a year only. A labourer receives a shilling a day; for mowing hay 18d; a mason 20d. The farmers plough with 4 or three horses with a driver, or with two horses with a driver, as they think the nature of their soil requires; but most generally with 3 horses and a driver. The plough most in use is the Scotch plough with a curved mould-board. The price of all sorts of provisions is fixed by the markets at Ayr.

Wallacetown.—About 30 years ago, the late Sir Thomas Wallace of Craigie began to feu houses and gardens from the north end of the old bridge at Ayr. At that time there were not above 8 or 10 straggling houses about the Bridgeend; and now, in 1792, by a gradual increase, there are 250 families living in Wallacetown, so named after its founder. This increase of inhabitants has been owing. 1st, to the extensive collieries which have been wrought on the Blackhouse estate in this parish, and on the lands belonging to the community of Newton adjoining to it. 2nd, many farmers advanced in life or unwilling to take their farms at a high additional rent, find houses in Wallacetown, to which they carried their capital, and became dealers in grain, meal, malt, &c. 3rd, Mechanics of all sorts

flocked into it, and feued houses or rented those that were built by others, with a view to profit. They are here exempted from the laws or regulations of the incorporated trades in the adjoining royal burgh of Ayr. 4th, A considerable number from Ireland and the West Highlands settled here as weavers, day-labourers, &c., because they could get higher wages than at home. It is a considerable disadvantage to this populous and thriving town, that there are no established magistrates residing in it; an evil which is the less likely to be soon remedied as the present superior of Wallacetown resides at a distance, and has little more connection with it than to uplift the feu duties. The attention and activity of the magistrates in Ayr and Newton to preserve good order in their towns often drives disorderly people and vagrants of different descriptions into Wallacetown. By the activity of some of the principal inhabitants, who, from regard to peace and good order, officiate as constables, this evil has been in some degree checked; and the managers of the collieries have much merit in their attention to the morals of the people employed by them. When it is considered that the inhabitants are a mixture of English, Irish, and Highlanders, with the original feuers, who were natives of the county of Ayr, it will be found that there is as much peace and decency of behaviour among them as can well be expected. They are 3 miles distant from the parish church, in which they have no seats; but have good opportunity of attending public worship at the church of Newton, which is built at the west end of one of their streets, or at the Seceding meeting house, which stands at the east end of it.

Population of Wallacetown.—The town contains 250 families, in all 960 souls, 187 married pairs, 38 widows, 8 widowers, 7 bachelors, 10 unmarried women that keep house.

Religion.—There is one Antiburgher Seceding minister. Four families in the country part of the parish, and 20 families in Wallacetown, belong to this congregation. Three Burghers, 3 Moravians, 3 Methodists, and 10 of the Church of England. All the rest are of the Established Church.

Baptisms.—The register of baptisms for the whole parish is regularly kept, and also the register of marriages; but as many from adjoining parishes have burial places in the church-yard of St Quivox, and some are buried at the Seceding meeting-house, no exact information can be given concerning the number of deaths. For the last 8 years there have been baptised, in

	Males.	*Females.*	*Total*	*Married.*
1784	24	19	43	7 pair
1785	33	23	56	18
1786	16	14	30	9
1787	31	16	47	16
1788	20	13	33	14
1789	26	24	50	10
1790	13	18	31	19
1791	21	16	37	13
	184	143	327	98

The average is 23 males, and nearly 18 females born annually, and about 12 couple married.

Church, School, and, Poor.—The stipend is

96 bolls of meal at 13s 4d	L.64	0	0
20 bolls of bear at 18s	18	0	0
In money	11	8	0
	L.93	8	0
Augmented in 1787, with the unanimous consent of the heritors by £25, and £2 10s for communion elements	27	10	0
	L.120	18	0

The church was repaired in 1767, uniformly seated, and plaistered by the heritors, and a new aile built by the patron, Mr Oswald of Auchencruive. There are about 20 on the poor's list, who receive only 2s each per month; and even this small allowance could not be afforded them from the weekly collections in the church, but the kirk session has received in donations and legacies during the last 10 years, above £100 which they distributed among the poor.

Day labourers live comfortably upon 1s a day; all of them in the country, and many in town, having small patches of potato ground, which is of great use to their families, and almost without exception their children are taught to read and write. The parish schoolmaster is well qualified to teach these branches and arithmetic. His salary is about £12 a year, school wages 18d per quarter, and his whole income may be about £24 besides a good house and garden. The house and school-house were built within these 6 years.

New Statistical Account.

[NOTE.—The account of St Quivox was drawn up in 1831, and revised in 1837, by the Rev. Stair M'Quhae, the minister of the parish.]

Name.—The name of the parish is now generally written St Quivox, but sometimes St

Evox. At an earlier period it appears always to have been written St Kevoch. The name is supposed to be derived from "*Sancta Kennocha Virgo in Coila*," who lived in the reign of Malcolm II., and was distinguished for her zeal in promoting monastic institutions.

Extent, &c.—The parish is about 5 miles in length, and 3 in breadth, and contains about 5000 acres. It is bounded on the south by the river Ayr, and on the east, north, and west, by the parishes of Tarbolton, Monkton, and Newton.

Topographical Appearances.—In general, the surface of the parish is level, but towards the eastern extremity it becomes more elevated and uneven. The temperature is mild, the snow scarcely ever lying more than two days. Wes erly winds prevail, which bring frequent showers from the Atlantic. But the heavier rains are with a southerly wind, and with east wind the barometer always uniformly rises. The soil nearest the sea is generally light and sandy, with moss and clay dikes in particular parts. These parts are naturally wet from the clay beds which confine the springs; and the small portion of higher land in the parish is a stiff clay soil.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The geological and mineral character of the parish is of the order of stratified rocks belonging to the coal formation. The workable seams of coal intermediate with the other strata are only two—the uppermost, a seam of about four feet in thickness, being tender and frangible, whilst the second seam, of nearly the same thickness, is very hard, and not easily broken, being of the quality termed splint-coal. The two seams are more than twenty fathoms from each other. These seams of coal are the same which have been extensively worked in the adjoining parishes of Newton and Prestwick. In the parish of St Quivox the uppermost seam of coal has been nearly exhausted by workings, which were carried on about fifty or sixty years ago. The lower seam has been only within these few years fitted, and there may remain to be worked about 1000 acres. The coal field is terminated on the north by a great dike or slip, which passes near the church of St Quivox, running in a direction nearly north-west; although trials have been made over this dike, no workable seam of coal has been found. There are no other minerals in the parish which are considered to be of value.

Yellow trout are found in the water of Ayr, and afford good sport to the angler, but there is no salmon fishery of any importance.

The fruit trees are much infested by a small caterpillar (*Aphis lanigera*), of which the larvæ appear to be deposited in the bud by the parent fly in autumn, and which destroys the blossom and leaves when they expand in spring, producing a devastation which is vulgarly called *blight*. Of late years the young wheats and turnips have suffered greatly from the wire-worm, which attacks the roots in April and July, and often destroys the white crop. It prevails chiefly in the dry light soils, and seems to be increased in the vicinity of the town by the use of ashes as manure.

No adequate cure for the evil has been discovered; but the consuming of the turnip on the ground by sheep, by consolidating the soil, seems to impede the operations of this destructive insect. The crows, larks, and pheasants, devour vast numbers of these worms, but they destroy also the young plants, by plucking them up in search of their prey. The crows in general discover the presence of the insect by the unhealthy appearance of the blade, and pull only the injured plant. But when they happen to alight in great numbers and in a hungry state, upon a field of young turnips, which have recently been thinned, they frequently destroy the whole crop in a very short time.

Land-owners.—The principal land-owners are, Mr Oswald of Auchencruive; Mr Forbes of Callendar; Messrs Hunters and Company, bankers, Ayr; and Mr Campbell of Craigie.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers do not extend further back than the year 1780, but since that period they have been kept with great regularity.

Antiquities.—Several small earthern urns were lately discovered in levelling a sand-bank at Content, supposed to be Roman. They are now in the possession of Dr Memes, Rector of the Ayr Academy. There are spacious mansion-houses at Auchencruive and Craigie. Both are finely situated on the banks of the Ayr, and the gardens and grounds at Auchencruive, laid out with much taste, are objects of attraction to strangers.

In 1755 the population of the parish of St Quivox amounted to 499 souls. But soon after that period, Sir Thomas Wallace of Craigie began to feu at the bridge end of Ayr, and at present, besides an agricultural population of 1071, Wallacetown and Content contain 4277, making in all 5348 souls. This increase has arisen from the coal-works in the parish, and in

the neighbouring parish of. Newton, from the general growth of the manufactures of the country, and from the demand for labourers, in consequence of agricultural improvements. The inhabitants of Wallacetown and Content belong chiefly to the poorer class of Irish settlers, and consist of colliers, labourers, and weavers employed by the manufacturing houses in Glasgow and Paisley. There are also a considerable number of artisans, carters, publicans, and shopkeepers, besides an undue proportion of strangers from Ireland, who have only a precarious means of subsistence, and are induced to take up their temporary abode here, by the cheapness of lodging, and the liberality of the public of Ayr in supplying their wants.

There are only five proprietors of land, all of the yearly value of £50 and upwards—and Mr Oswald and Mr Campbell are the only residing heritors. Number of families in the parish, 1146; chiefly employed in agriculture, 162; trade, manufacture, or handicraft, 479.

The whole of the parish is in tillage, with the exception of about 250 acres covered with plantations of various ages, consisting of the ordinary kinds of forest trees, which are carefully thinned, and are in a thriving condition.

Rent.—The average rent of land may be stated at about £2 5s per acre. The grazing of a milch cow is from £4 to £5; a two-year-old, £2; a year-old, £1 10s.

Live-stock.- The Ayrshire breed of cattle are in general use, being preferred even for fattening, as it is believed that they rise to more weight in proportion to the food they consume, and are fit for the butcher at an earlier age than any other stock with which they have been compared. Eleven or twelve pounds is no uncommon price for bullocks sold to the butcher in the month of April, then just two years old, and which have been well reared with milk, and fed during the winter with turnip. Only a few sheep, as pets, are bred in the parish, and those fed on turnip are generally of the black-faced kind, bred in the Highlands or Galloway.

Husbandry.—Husbandry is in a flourishing state, and the land, in possession of a very intelligent and industrious tenantry, has of late years been much improved. On the light soils, which comprehend a large proportion of the parish, a five years' rotation is generally observed:—1, oats; 2, green crop, consisting of turnips, potatoes, carrots or mangel-wurzel; 3, wheat or barley; 4, hay, or sown grasses pastured with sheep or cows; 5, pasture. Manure for the green crops is purchased in Ayr at about 3s per cart, but on the farms near the town the inhabitants are allowed to plant their own potatoes with their manure. The farmer works the land, leads the manure, for which he is paid, and charges the cottager 1s per boll for potatoes produced as rent. Turnips, chiefly Swedish, are the prevailing green crops. Of these one-half are drawn to feed bullocks or dairy stock, and the other half are consumed on the ground by sheep. On the farm of Shields, situated about four miles from Ayr, occupied by Mr J. Tenant, an extensive dairy has been substituted for the feeding of bullocks. About 60 cows are kept in the highest condition, being fed in the winter with boiled Swedish turnip, carrot, mangel-wurzel, and bean meal, and are always fit for the butcher when the milk fails. The whole of the milk is churned; the buttermilk sold in Ayr; and the butter, which, by the mixture of a small quantity of saltpetre with the milk, has been entirely freed from any unpleasant turnip flavour, is carried to Edinburgh and Glasgow markets. On this farm the practice of feeding sheep on turnip, and pasturing the sown grasses, instead of cutting hay, was first introduced into the parish; and the land having now passed three or four times through the rotation on this system, is so much improved, that 60 milch cows are kept well on the same number of acres which, at the commencement, barely supported 40.

The light soils in some parts kept in a marshy state by springs, have been dried by deep box drains covered with small stones; and on the stiff soils, the practice of furrow-draining, with small brick, stones, or tile, has come into general use. On the estate of Blackhouse, above 15,000 falls of drains of various descriptions have been laid within the last two years. The expense is incurred by the proprietors, who indemnify themselves by a small additional rent, or receive assistance from the tenants in the leading of the materials.

The leases of land are generally for nineteen years. On the estate of Auchencruive, the tenants are rarely changed, and the proprietor seeks rather to retain men of spirit and industry, and to enable them to cultivate the land with success, than to let the farm to the highest bidder. The farm-buildings in the whole of the parish are commodious and in good repair; and the thorn hedges, which form the enclosures, are well kept, and have been gradually improving by the practice which prevails of dressing them when green, with the hedge-hook, in the month of August.

Quarries. — There are several quarries of excellent freestone in the parish, and three coal-pits constantly worked, which produce coal of good quality.

Produce.—The amount of raw produce raised in the parish may be stated as follows :—

Produce of grain of all kinds, being 480 acres of wheat at £11, and 566 acres of oats at £8 10s per acre, . . .	£10,091	0	0
Green crop, ...	4704	0	0
Hay, ...	1150	0	0
Land in pasture at £2 per acre, . .	3018	0	0
Gardens and orchards, ...	100	0	0
Thinning and felling of wood, . . .	1130	0	0
Produce of coal mines and quarries, . .	3405	0	0
	£23,598	0	0

In the above statement grass lands are estimated at too low a rate, as they actually produce much more with dairy stock than if they were employed in grazing at the usual rate of cattle. It is difficult, however, to render this part of the estimate more accurate, as the produce of the dairy stock arises also from the consumption of turnip, carrot, potatoes, &c., which are already valued separately.

Market-Town.—The whole of the parish being near to Ayr, and the most populous part of it forming a suburb of that town, it enjoys the advantage of a convenient market for all commodities, and of a daily post. The thriving village of Whitelets is situated a mile and a-half from Ayr, and the roads from Ayr to Mauchline and to Galston, which are kept in excellent repair, pass through the whole length of the parish. There is also a railroad from Whitelets to the harbour of Ayr, for the conveyance of coal.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church was built before the Reformation, but was repaired and enlarged about twelve years ago, and now affords good accommodation for nearly 500 sitters. It is situated near the centre of the parish; but the mass of the population, being at one extremity, are three miles distant from the church, in which they have no accommodation. To remedy this evil, which had been long felt by that large portion of the inhabitants of Wallacetown who belong to the Established Church, a chapel was built by subscription in that district in the year 1835, which affords accommodation to nearly 900 sitters. The General Assembly granted a constitution to this chapel in the year 1836, and Wallacetown has since been disjoined *quoad sacra* from the parish of St Quivox, and erected into a separate parish. The Rev. John Alexander was ordained minister of Wallacetown by the presbytery of Ayr in the same year; and the whole of the sittings in the new church are already let—chiefly to parishioners.

An excellent manse was built in the parish of St Quivox in the year 1823. The glebe consists of four acres, which may be valued at a yearly rent of £10; and the stipend, which was augmented in 1835, consists of 18 chalders.

There are in Wallacetown an Antiburgher meeting-house, an United Secession Church, a Reformed Presbyterian meeting-house, a small Independent Church, a small Episcopal Chapel, and a handsome Roman Catholic Chapel. The congregations attending the places of worship assemble from this and eight or nine of the surrounding parishes. The ministers are paid chiefly from the seat-rents, but the exact amount of stipends cannot be ascertained.

The number of families in the parish belonging to the different religious denominations is as follows :—Established Church, 724 families; Roman Catholics, 125; Relief, 112; United Secession Church, 71; Antiburghers, 40; Episcopalian, 20; Reformed Presbytery, 25; Methodists, 18; Independents, 6; Moravians, 3; Universalists, 2; total, 1146 families.

The Established Church is well attended by the agricultural population, who alone have seats; and the collections for charitable purposes amount to about £50 per annum.

Education.—There are one parochial and eight unendowed schools in the parish, in which Latin, mathematics, book-keeping, arithmetic, geography, reading, and writing are taught. The parochial teacher has all the legal accommodations, with a salary of £30 per annum. The other teachers are supported solely by fees. The expense of education varies from 12s to £1 2s per annum, according to the advancement of the pupil. The whole of the native population can read; but there are some of the Irish settlers, and a few of the younger members of their families, who have not been instructed in reading. In general, education is sought after; and the Sabbath schools, of which there are several, are well attended, and have occasioned a visible improvement in the moral habits of the poorer classes.

There is a small parochial library lately established; but, with regard to this and the other branches of parochial economy, it may be observed that, owing to the close vicinity to Ayr, many of the parishioners avail themselves of the schools, mechanics' institutions, libraries, and religious associations established in that town, while they enjoy the benefits of the dispensary and savings bank for Ayr, Newton, and Wallacetown.

Friendly Societies.—Several friendly societies have existed in the parish; but it generally happens, that when the weekly assessment in support of their funds increases much, in consequence of age, infirmity, or prevailing sickness amongst the members, these institutions are broken up. In order to remedy this defect incident to all such societies in which the weekly contribution varies, and in times of exigency rises to an amount inconvenient for the members, a funded female friendly society was established a few years since under the patronage of Lady Lilias Oswald, to which the ordinary members pay a regular quarterly assessment of 1s 2d, and receive an aliment of 4s per week in sickness, besides an allowance for marriage and funeral expenses. There are a number of honorary members who contribute a higher rate, with the view of giving effect to the institution; and as there is (chiefly owing to the liberality of the patroness) a stock of about £320, it is hoped that the funds will be able to meet the increased demand upon them, which must be expected, as the present members become aged and infirm.

Poor.—There are about 80 regular and temporary paupers on the roll, who receive at an average 1s per week—10s being the highest, and 1s 6d the lowest monthly allowance. For the last twenty years there has been an assessment for the support of the poor, which is levied on the real rent of land and houses, one-half payable by the proprietors, and the other half by the occupiers. From the year 1812, the annual expenditure for the poor had gradually increased till the year 1822, for which year it amounted to £383, the assessment being at the rate of 7½d per pound sterling of real rent. From the year 1823 the expenditure has gradually decreased till the year 1830, when it amounted to £219, and the assessment for this current year, 1831, has been fixed at 5d per pound on land, and 4d per pound on houses—[since 1831 the expenditure for the poor has gradually increased]—an inferior rate being levied on houses, in consideration of the perishable nature of that description of property. There is unfortunately little disposition in the parish to abstain from asking parochial relief; and the facts stated above afford a practical refutation of the assertion which has been so frequently made, that the expense of the poor must of necessity increase whenever funds for their support are raised by legal assessment. Owing to the influx of poor Irish, it would be difficult to find in Scotland a place more abounding in pauperism than Wallacetown; and in the present most unfair and injurious state of the law of settlement, the expenditure of the poor can only be kept within reasonable bounds by a strict application of the funds to the relief of those aged and infirm persons and infants for whom the law provides, and whose claim to parochial aid is the same, whether the funds for their support are derived from legal assessment or voluntary contribution.

Inns.—The number of public-houses in the parish is unreasonably great. This no doubt arises from the great demand for ardent spirits which already exists; but it is obvious that the increase of those houses, by the facilities thus afforded for the indulgence of intemperance, must aggravate the evil.

Fuel.—There is abundance of coal in the parish and neighbourhood, which is sold at the pits from 6s to 9s per ton, according to the distance from the harbour of Ayr, where it is shipped for the Irish market.

Miscellaneous Observations.—Since the date of the last Statistical Account, the state of agriculture is prodigiously improved, and the greater portion of the parish now resembles a well-cultivated garden. The population has increased threefold, and the rental of land is more than doubled.

END OF VOLUME I.







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